

## PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>Project Title</b>	Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project
<b>Brief Description</b>	<p>The Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project provides multiple natural resources benefits that are important to Californians and the Upper Feather River Watershed, and it stimulates the local agricultural industry and economy with increased forage and livestock productivity, new and improved facilities, and local jobs throughout project implementation. The project includes several landowner and public education and outreach activities to improve conservation understanding, provide resources, and enhance the nature tourism experience.</p> <p>The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD) project proposes various natural resources enhancement projects on ranch lands within Sierra Valley and the SVRCD district. Six separate project components on private agricultural land and various outreach tasks will, together enhance water quality, improve wildlife habitat, reduce soil erosion and leverage earlier enhancement investments on both private and public lands in Sierra Valley. They will also contribute to agricultural viability and the local economy with regained productive pasture, increased water management efficiency, grazing management, and with financial incentives to complete the projects and use local contractors and vendors. This will be achieved by installing three miles of riparian fencing to enhance management on 1150 acres of riparian areas; development of new off-stream livestock watering systems; upgrading a deteriorated wooden irrigation diversion structure, and weed control management on minimum 200 acres to maximum 2000 acres within the district.</p> <p>The outreach components will increase local landowner conservation and weed understanding and stimulate interest in future conservation activities by providing weed management materials and demonstrating project effectiveness in a post-project tour with other stakeholders and with success stories on the SVRCD website. They will also contribute to the public's understanding about watershed health and conservation and their role in weed containment by providing strategic information signage, and by publishing conservation material and experiences and resources on the SVRCD website. The nature tourism experience will be enhanced with improved ecosystem benefits and availability of information.</p>
<b>Total Requested Amount</b>	316,820.00
<b>Other Fund Proposed</b>	41,162.00
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	357,982.00
<b>Project Category</b>	Site Improvement/Restoration
<b>Project Area/Size</b>	2000
<b>Project Area Type</b>	Acres
<b>Have you submitted to</b>	No

<b>SNC this fiscal year?</b>	
<b>Is this application related to other SNC funding?</b>	No

<b>Project Results</b>
Resource protection

<b>Project Purpose</b>	<b>Project Purpose Percent</b>
Natural Resource	

<b>County</b>
Plumas
Sierra

<b>Sub Region</b>
North Central



<b>PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION</b>
------------------------------------

<b>Name</b>	Mr. Gale Dupree,
<b>Title</b>	Chairman
<b>Organization</b>	Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District
<b>Primary Address</b>	P.O. Box 50, , , Vinton, CA, 96135
<b>Primary Phone/Fax</b>	530-993-6051 <b>Ext.</b>
<b>Primary Email</b>	ifish@earthling.net

## PROJECT LOCATION INFORMATION

### Project Location

Address:	Communities in Sierra Valley, PO Box 50, , Vinton, CA, 96135 United
States	
Water Agency:	Sierraville PUD
Latitude:	39.4500
Longitude:	120.2100
Congressional District:	n/a
Senate:	n/a
Assembly:	n/a
Within City Limits:	No
City Name:	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grant Application Type

**Grant Application Type:**  
**Category One Site Improvement**

**Grant Application Type:**  
**Category One Site Improvement**

<b>PROJECT OTHER CONTACTS INFORMATION</b>
---

<b>Other Grant Project Contacts</b>
Name: Ms. Carol Dobbas, Project Role: Day-to-Day Responsibility Phone: 7757222610 Phone Ext: E-mail: cjdobbas@yahoo.com

## UPLOADS

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

Upload Name
Completed Application Checklist
Table of Contents
Full Application Form
Authorization to Apply or Resolution
Narrative Descriptions
CEQA Documentation
CEQA Documentation
CEQA Documentation
Detailed Budget Form
Restrictions/Agreements
Letters of Support
Letters of Support
Long Term Management Plan
Project Location Map

Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Topographic Map
Topographic Map
Topographic Map
Topographic Map
Topographic Map
Photos of the Project Site
Land Tenure- Only for Site Improvement Projects
Land Tenure- Only for Site Improvement Projects
Site Plan - Only Site Improv. or Restoration Proj.

To preserve the integrity of the uploaded document, headers, footers and page numbers have not been added by the system.



## Appendix B1 Full Application Checklist

Project Name:

EGID#: 699

**Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project**  
*formerly Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality Enhancement and Wildlife Corridor Project*

Applicant: Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

Please mark each box: check if item is included in the application; mark "N/A" if not applicable to the project. "N/A" identifications must be explained in the application. Please consult with SNC staff prior to submission if you have any questions about the applicability to your project of any items on the checklist. All applications must include a CD including an electronic file of each checklist item, if applicable. The naming convention for each electronic file is listed after each item on the checklist. (Electronic File Name = EFN: "naming convention". file extension choices)

Submission requirements for all Category One and Category Two Grant Applications

1. ☒ Completed Application Checklist (EFN: Checklist.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf)
2. ☒ Table of Contents (EFN: TOC.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf)
3. ☒ Full Application Project Information Form (EFN: SIform.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf)
4. ☒ Authorization to Apply or Resolution (EFN: authorization.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf)
5. ☒ Narrative Descriptions - Submit a single document max 10 pages Arial 12pt that includes each of the following narrative descriptions (EFN: Narrative.doc, .docx, .rtf)
  - a. ☒ Detailed Project Description
    - ☒ Project Description including Goals/Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc.
    - ☒ Project Summary
    - ☒ Environmental Setting
  - b. ☒ Workplan and Schedule
  - c. ☒ Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements
  - d. ☒ Organizational Capacity
  - e. ☒ Cooperation and Community Support
  - f. ☒ Long Term Management and Sustainability
  - g. ☒ Performance Measures
6. Supplemental and Supporting documents
  - a. ☒ CEQA/NEPA Compliance Form (EFN: CEQAform.doc)
    - ☒ California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation (EFN: CEQA.pdf)
    - N/A National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation (EFN: NEPA.pdf)**

**Project is on private lands and NEPA not required**



- b. ☒ Detailed Budget Form (EFN: Budget.xls .xlsx)
- c. ☒ Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements, as applicable **Northeastern Center of California Historical Resources Information Center, Records Search reply pending**  
- Category One Projects Only  
☒ Restrictions / Agreements (EFN: RestAgree.pdf)  
☒ Regulatory Requirements / Permits (EFN: RegPermit.pdf)
- d. Cooperation and Community Support  
☒ Letters of Support (EFN: LOS.doc, .docx or pdf)
- e. Long-Term Management and Sustainability  
☒ Long-Term Management Plan (EFN: LTMP.pdf)
- f. Maps and Photos  
☒ Project Location Map (EFN: LocMap.pdf)  
☒ Parcel Map showing County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) (EFN: ParcelMap.pdf)  
☒ Topographic Map (EFN: Topo.pdf)  
☒ Photos of the Project Site (10 maximum) (EFN: Photo.jpg, .gif)
- g. Additional submission requirements for Conservation Easement Acquisition applications only - **NA – not a conservation easement application**  
NA Acquisition Schedule (EFN: acqSched.doc, .docx, .rtf, .pdf)  
NA Willing Seller Letter (EFN: WillSell.pdf)  
NA Real Estate Appraisal (EFN: Appraisal.pdf)  
NA Conservation Easement Language (EFN: CE.pdf)
- h. Additional submission requirements for Site Improvement / Restoration Project applications only  
☒ Land Tenure Documents – attach only if documentation was not included with Pre-application (EFN: Tenure.pdf) -  
☒ Site Plan (EFN: SitePlan.pdf)  
**N/A** Leases or Agreements – (EFN: LeaseAgmnt.pdf)  
**Tenure Agreements provided above**

I certify that the information contained in the Application, including required attachments, is accurate.

Carol Dobbas  
Signed (Authorized Representative)

October 19, 2012  
Date

Carol Dobbas - RCD Director/Secretary  
Name and Title (print or type)

# Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

## Table of Contents

Full Project Application Information Form	Page1
Authorization to Apply (Resolution)	3
Narrative Descriptions	5
Detailed Project Description:	5
Goals/ Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc	5-8
Project Summary	7
Environmental Setting	7
Work Plan and Schedule	9
Restrictions, Technical/Environmental	11
Organizational Capacity	12
Cooperation and Community Support	12
Long Term Management Plan and Sustainability	13
Performance Measures	13
<i>Supplemental and Supporting Documents:</i>	15
CEQA/NEPA Compliance Form	17
CEQA Documentation – Notice of Exemptions	22
Detailed Budget Form	27
Restrictions/Agreements	29
Regulatory Requirements/Permits	30
Cooperation and Community Support – Letters of Support	32
Long Term Management Plan	43
Maps and Photos	45
Project Location Map	46
Parcel Maps	47
Topo and Site Maps	51
Photos of Restoration Sites	56
Land Tenure Documents	61
Site Plans	73
Leases or Agreements	79

Instructions for use of this form:

1. Scroll down and check the box indicating completion of requested information in the appropriate format.

• You can move among the boxes by using your mouse or the "Tab" key.

2. When you have completed the form, print and sign at the bottom.

**Please note:** Adobe® Reader® does not allow you to save your work. It is very important that you print out your form immediately after completing it.

## Appendix B2

### Project Information Form

**PROJECT NAME** (Limit name to 10 words or less)

**EGID#** 699

Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

**APPLICANT NAME** (Legal name, address, and zip code)

Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District PO Box 3562 Quincy, CA 95971

project name formerly: Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality Enhancement and Wildlife Corridor Project

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Refer to Sec. IV, 5a in the GAP.

Has the project description been updated from the project description submitted with the Pre-Application form? (Choose One) ☐ SAME ☒ UPDATED

#### CONSISTENCY WITH LOCAL GENERAL PLAN

Is this project consistent with the appropriate jurisdiction's (city/county) general plan?

☒ Yes ☐ No (If not, explain why not.)

#### WILLIAMSON ACT STATUS (for conservation easement acquisition projects only)

Is the project enrolled in a Williamson Act contract with the local county? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what is the expiration date of the contract? \_\_\_\_\_

#### FUNDING AND BUDGET INFORMATION

SNC Grant Request \$316,820

☐ Check if SNC is the sole funder of this project

#### PERSON WITH FISCAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT/INVOICING

Name and title – type or print

Phone

Email Address

☐ Mr. Carol Dobbas, Director

775-722-2610

cjdobbas@yahoo.com

☒ Ms.

#### PERSON WITH DAY-TO-DAY RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT (Only include this information if different from pre-application submittal)

Name and title – type or print

Phone

Email Address

☐ Mr. Carol Dobbas, Director

775-722-2610

cjdobbas@yahoo.com

☒ Ms.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR PLANNING DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION** (*At least one entry with Email address is REQUIRED*)

Name: Tim Beals Sierra County

Phone Number: 530-289-3251

Email Address: tbeals@sierracounty.ws

Name: Randy Wilson Plumas County

Phone Number: 530-283-6214

Email Address: randywilson@countyofplumas.com

**NEAREST PUBLIC WATER AGENCY (OR AGENCIES) CONTACT INFORMATION** (*At least one entry with Email address is REQUIRED*)

Name: Sierraville PUD

Phone Number: 530-832-4649

Email Address: livetorope@yahoo.com

Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

**Please identify the appropriate project category below and provide the associated details** (*Choose One – should be the same as the category identified in the pre-application*)

☒ Category One Site Improvement

☐ Category Two Pre-Project Activities

☐ Category One Conservation Easement Acquisition

**☒ Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition**

Project Area: Sierra Valley RCD District

Total Acres: 2000 40,000

SNC Portion (if different): 2000

Total Miles (i.e. river or stream bank): 3

SNC Portion (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

**For Conservation Easement Acquisitions Only**

☐ Appraisal Included

☐ Will submit appraisal by \_\_\_\_\_

**Select one primary Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition deliverable**

☐ Stream Restoration/Protection

☐ Management Practices Changes

☒ Natural Resource Protection

☐ Infrastructure Development/Improvement

☐ Conservation Easement

**Does the applicant intend to transfer the easement to a third party?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, is the third party organization known? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please attach a letter from this organization documenting their willingness to assume the long term management of the project.

**☐ Pre-Project Activities**

**Select one primary Pre-Project deliverable**

☐ Permit

☐ Condition Assessment

☐ CEQA/NEPA

☐ Biological Survey

☐ Appraisal

☐ Environmental Site

☐ Plan

Assessment

# Sierra Valey Resource Conservation District

PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

SVRCD

Board of Directors Resolution No 1210

In the matter of: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS  
**FOR THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PRESERVATION OF RANCHES AND  
AGRICULTURAL LANDS GRANT PROGRAM UNDER THE PROPOSITION 84 SAFE  
DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND  
COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006**

Resolution No: 1210

Date: 10-9-12

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Directors of the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District at a regular meeting held October 3, 2012 by the following vote:

Ayes: 6

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstentions: 1

Signed and approved by:

irman, Board of Directors

WHEREAS, the

Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided Funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of a portion of these funds through a local assistance grants program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy require a resolution certifying the approval of application(s) by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said application(s) to the SNC; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the SNC to carry out the project; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District has identified the Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project as valuable toward meeting its mission and goals.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, that this Board:

- Approves the submittal of an application for the Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project; and

- Certifies that Applicant understands the assurances and certification requirements in the application; and
- Certifies that Applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the resource(s) consistent with the long-term benefits described in support of the application; or will secure the resources to do so; and
- Certifies that Applicant will comply with all legal requirements as determined during the application process; and
- Appoints the Chairman, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to= applications, agreements, payment requests, and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District on the 3rd day of October, 2012.

## 5. Narrative

### *a. Detailed Project Description*

**Project Description.** The Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project provides multiple natural resources benefits that are important to Californians and the Upper Feather River Watershed, and it stimulates the local agricultural industry and economy with increased forage and livestock productivity, new and improved facilities, and local jobs throughout project implementation. The project includes several landowner and public education and outreach activities to improve conservation understanding, provide resources, and enhance the nature tourism experience.

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD) project proposes various natural resources enhancement projects on ranch lands within Sierra Valley and the SVRCD district. Six separate project components on private agricultural land and various outreach tasks will, together enhance water quality, improve wildlife habitat, reduce soil erosion and leverage earlier enhancement investments on both private and public lands in Sierra Valley. They will also contribute to agricultural viability and the local economy with regained productive pasture, increased water management efficiency, grazing management, and with financial incentives to complete the projects and use local contractors and vendors. This will be achieved by installing three miles of riparian fencing to enhance management on 1150 acres of riparian areas; development of new off-stream livestock watering systems; upgrading a deteriorated wooden irrigation diversion structure, and weed control management on minimum 200 acres to maximum 2000 acres within the district.

The outreach components will increase local landowner conservation and weed understanding and stimulate interest in future conservation activities by providing weed management materials and demonstrating project effectiveness in a post-project tour with other stakeholders and with success stories on the SVRCD website. They will also contribute to the public's understanding about watershed health and conservation and their role in weed containment by providing strategic information signage, and by publishing conservation material and experiences and resources on the SVRCD website. The nature tourism experience will be enhanced with improved ecosystem benefits and availability of information.

**Purpose and Goals.** The water quality and habitat enhancement project purpose and goals are to: improve water quality; reduce potential sources of erosion; improve water conservation and water use efficiency; restore healthy vegetation biodiversity through noxious weed containment and control; enhance riparian and habitat areas along waterways and natural springs within the various project sites; and provide various educational components that reflect project outcomes and improve conservation understanding and stimulate additional conservation activities. This project will extend SVRCD's conservation leadership, provide demonstration models and experiences, support agricultural viability, and recognize conservation achievements of these landowners.

**This project meets the requirements of Proposition 84** by protecting and improving water quality, aiding in the preservation of working landscapes through improved vegetative and water management and by providing protection of the region's physical, cultural, archaeological, historical and living resources including: streams and tributaries, natural springs, riparian areas and rangeland under the stewardship of generational ranch families. Success stories will be catalysts for future like efforts. This project will improve the overall watershed health in a headwater region that serves 20 million California water users and its ecosystem.

**This project is also consistent with the SNC Mission** by improving the environmental conditions, particularly water quality for all natural resources users and wildlife, and by contributing to the economic opportunities and social stability for the rural Sierra Valley area and this portion of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Region. Agricultural viability will be supported with enhanced water use efficiency, improved forage acreage, financial incentives to install conservation, and related economic activity. With support from the *Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Land Grant Program*, this project will enhance the long-term ecological values that are the foundation for the economic viability of Plumas and Sierra Counties, as well as the historic working ranches.

**Outcomes/Results.** Project work will be completed within the grant timeframe, (March 2017). The outcomes of this project will benefit the natural community, the public, local agricultural productivity, and the local economy. There will be reduced active erosion, improved water quality, increased riparian and habitat benefits, healthier biodiversity on native and non-native vegetation on agricultural lands, and reclaimed pasture. Further, local ranchers and stakeholders, including public officials, will learn from this project during a tail-gate tour and various other presentations with the goal to encourage other conservation projects. Nature tourists will benefit from an enhanced environmental setting and experience. To support the local economy, local contractors will be used and local vendors will be used where practicable to supply project materials, services and supplies.

Specifically, these projects collectively will benefit the natural community, the public and the local economy in the following ways.

- The riparian protection and weed management projects will improve the ecological and water quality conditions of riparian areas and associated upland habitats that support bird nesting, nature tourism and productive agriculture
- Noxious weed reduction and improved grazing management will increase valuable agriculture production acreage.
- Procurement of local jobs and supplies from local vendors where possible to complete project work will support and improve the region's economic and cultural foundation of the rural community.
- Conservation education for landowners and other working landscape stakeholders will improve opportunities to stimulate future conservation projects and build upon this project's success.
- Conservation outreach to the public will enhance the nature tourism and recreational experience and will increase understanding of working landscapes and the local agricultural economy and culture.
- This project will protect the region's physical, cultural, archaeological, historical and living resources under agricultural stewardship.



- This project will augment prior and current public and private investments in similar projects by NRCS and various other partners within the Plumas-Sierra Weeds Management Group and others to expand overall watershed benefits

Conservation capacity in Sierra Valley is limited for various reasons, among which are limited Natural Resources Conservation Service technical and cost-share funding and reduced funding for the two counties' Resource Advisory Committees and Agriculture Department's budgets for weed control. This project will fill a valuable leadership and funding gap, complete valuable projects on the waiting list, and complement existing conservation investments such as those by Natural Resources Conservation Service, Sierra County Fire Safe and Watershed Council, and private landowners.

Many community stakeholders will make significant in-kind contributions to the project including: the Plumas and Sierra Counties Resource Advisory Committee Title II Secure Rural Schools Funding (for the weed management component only), Natural Resources Conservation Service, Plumas-Sierra Department of Agriculture and Plumas-Sierra UC Cooperative Extension and the Plumas-Sierra Weeds Management Group

**Summary.** The SVRCD project includes five identified enhancement/restoration sites, as well as, a broader "treatment area" identified as Site 6 for the SVRCD district-wide noxious weed management component of the project and educational activities. These projects sites were selected based on their expected resource benefits and commitment from willing landowners to provide demonstration sites. The practices will be installed with assistance by the five project landowners, other community partners and, subsequently managed by the landowners. All practices will meet local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards and specifications that will ensure project integrity, practical maintenance and cost containment.

**Environmental Setting.** Sierra Valley is located in the North Central SNC Region and in Plumas and Sierra counties. This 120,000 acre valley is the largest valley in the Sierra Nevada and headwaters of the Middle Fork Feather River and includes numerous sub-watersheds and a complex of meadows and streams.

Current land uses within the district are primarily seasonal pasture and alfalfa, grain hay and meadow hay production lands. Most of the land in the Sierra Valley is privately owned ranch land surrounded by Forest Service uplands which comprise 70-80% of the watershed and provide recreation, forest management, and grazing benefits to the local economic base. Both Plumas and Sierra County General Plans strongly support the rural setting of the valley and prioritize the preservation of the historic ranches and agricultural lands, many of which are enrolled in the Williamson Act and Timberland Preservation Zone.

The natural Sierra Valley stream channels, sub-watershed streams, and constructed conveyance channels, meander through private ranch lands and provide a wide range of habitat services and other benefits on these working landscapes. The Middle Fork of the Feather River is a designated wild and scenic river which flows out of Sierra Valley where it provides an important wildlife habitat corridor for a variety of bird populations including sandhill crane, ibis, song birds and other migratory birds. Sierra Valley is an Audubon Society nationally designated Important Bird Area and is home to

over 260 bird species alone. It is a nesting habitat for many bird species and the valley is well known for its large population of raptors including eagles, hawks and barn owls.

Healthy vegetation biodiversity contributes to the habitat benefits that attract bird populations. Noxious Weed control and management has been a long range conservation priority for SVRCD. This resource concern has potential to degrade agriculture viability and the natural resources of the whole Sierra Valley watershed. By strategically investing in the control of non-native invasive weeds, the SVRCD and its partners believe that important sierra meadow and riparian habitats, as well as, the economic viability of ranching in Sierra Valley can continue to be protected for future generations.

Sierra Valley's economy benefits from a growing nature tourism industry that is linked to the valley's biodiversity, location, scenic and cultural values. There are numerous organizations that promote bird watching and conduct tours in the valley. Other recreationalists, such as cyclists and fishermen and automobile touring groups who use the valley roads, appreciate the vistas of working landscapes and wildlife viewing.

### **Scope of Work and Location**

This project and its components primarily occur on the floor of Sierra Valley. Approximately 1,150 acres of riparian habitat will be enhanced and an estimated 200-2000 acres of soil productivity and vegetation biodiversity will be improved through noxious weed control and containment. Treatment techniques will include non-restricted herbicide, hand pulling, and goat grazing for certified organic farms. The SVRCD's specific goal is to reduce perennial pepperweed populations by 50% and completely eradicate musk thistle infestations in Sierra Valley over the next three years. This project will augment investments to date and provide consistency necessary for long term control, and even eradication. Unchecked, noxious weeds can adversely impact many beneficial uses within the watershed, as well as encroach onto upland and downstream lands. This project will address these priorities by enhancing and protecting the natural resources on which local agriculture depends, and by providing financial incentives to the landowners themselves to implement these projects where preferred.

In addition to a district-wide noxious weed component, the project involves five site improvement and grazing management components that are described below. All projects will begin in spring 2013 and be completed by early spring 2017. Except for the licensed vegetation management contractor, all projects will be performed by the landowners or by a local contractor selected by SVRCD. Construction and other practices will meet local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards and specifications.

Specific Site Projects and benefits include:

**Site #1: Riparian Fencing and 2 Off-stream Water Facilities.** Benefit: approximately @200 acres of riparian area improvement and protection.

**Site #2: Riparian Fencing.** Benefit: 1.5 miles of streambank protection to reduce erosion and enhance water quality.

**Site #3: Weed Management.** Benefit: @400 acres improved agriculture land productivity, forage diversity and ecosystem health.

**Site #4: Irrigation Diversion Structure Replacement.** Benefit: improved and more efficient water distribution, reduced erosion and increased forage production.

**Site #5: Exclusion Fencing.** Benefit: protection and enhancement of riparian area associated with a natural geothermal artesian spring.

**Site #6: Uncertain Weed Treatment Area and Weed Education.** Benefits: contain current populations and protect un-infested agriculture lands throughout the district as well as reduce downstream invasions; increase landowner and public understanding of noxious weeds and control; increase nature tourist experience.

## **b. Workplan and Schedule**

### **Project Management**

**Task 1.** Award notification. February 2013

**Task 2.** Contract with SNC signed. March, 2013. **Deliverable: Signed Contract.**

**Task 3 Ongoing Project Management:** May 2013 – March 2017. Overall project management; contractor procurement; oversight of site-specific project (agreements, layout and design, construction/treatment, landowner liaison) implementation; procurement of contractors; collection of site project records and accounting; SNC invoicing; cooperators and contractors payments; SNC 6 month & final reporting. **Deliverables: Completed project accounting, project payments and SNC reports.**

### **Site-Specific Project Workplan.**

It is anticipated that most projects will be completed by November 2014. Noxious weed treatment will be conducted summer 2013 through fall 2016.

**Deliverables:** Completed installations built to NRCS standards; photo and written documentation by SVRCD; and weed treatment and map and photo documentation by SVRCD.

**Installation** will be conducted by experienced, local SVRCD contractors and/or landowners, who will be encouraged to procure local materials, equipment and labor.

### **Specific Project Descriptions:**

**Site #1: Riparian Fencing and 2 Off-stream Water Facilities.** Benefit: approximately 200 acres of riparian area improvement and protection. **Deliverable:** 5300 feet of grazing management fencing, and two off-stream alternative livestock watering facilities served by one new agricultural well and solar pump in two pastures (2 5000 gallon polyethylene storage tanks, 2-5 recycled tire water troughs, new well with solar-powered pump, associated polyethylene piping and protective metal panel enclosures).

**Site #2: Riparian Fencing.** Benefit: 1.5 miles of streambank protection to reduce erosion and enhance water quality. **Deliverable:** 1.5 miles of grazing management fencing on approximately 850 acres of riparian area.

**Site #3: Weed Management.** Benefit: approximately 400 acres improved agriculture land productivity, forage diversity and ecosystem health. **Deliverable:** @400 +/- acres of treated musk thistle infestation, which also minimizes infestation onto adjacent properties, with the four-year goal of complete eradication.

**Site #4: Irrigation Diversion Structure Replacement.** Benefit: improved, more efficient water distribution, reduced erosion and increased forage production that is vital to the sustainability of this ranch for subsequent generations. **Deliverable:** replacement of a deteriorating wooden irrigation diversion structure with an upgraded structure. Structure will be constructed on site. The concrete upgrade will add practice longevity.

**Site #5: Exclusion Fencing.** Benefit: protection and enhancement of riparian area associated with a natural geothermal artesian spring. **Deliverable:** installation of a .5 mile (2500 ft) grazing management fencing to protect a 3 acre riparian and habitat area

**Site #6: Uncertain Weed Treatment Area and Weed Education.** Benefit: contain current populations and protect un-infested agriculture lands throughout the SVRCD district area as well as reduce downstream invasions. **Deliverables:**

a. **Weed treatment:** minimum of 200 acres and a maximum of 2000 acres are anticipated for treatment, as new noxious weed sites are identified throughout the course of the project; pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*), musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*), scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthuim*), and a variety of class 1, 2 and 3 rated noxious weeds; treatment options include non-restricted herbicides, hand pulling, and biological control with goat grazing.

b. **Pre-project landowner education program** to meet the contractor, hear the treatment strategy, learn about the specific weeds to be treated; University of California Cooperative Extension will assist with planning the program and providing a speaker; Plumas-Sierra Counties Agriculture Commissioner will provide landowner education materials and other resources. Refreshments will be provided in-kind by Plumas-Sierra Cattlewomen and/or Farm Bureau.

c. **Public outreach** will include 1-2 working landscape and weed information signs strategically installed for recreation visitors; roadside banners during treatment; distributed weed management materials; working SVRCD project website page about working landscapes and weeds. Upper Feather River Watershed Group and Plumas-Sierra Weeds Management Group will provide materials, tour and website in-kind assistance. Loyaltan FFA students will provide public outreach assistance.

**Project outreach: Deliverables:** a. Tailgate outreach site tour for landowners and local stakeholders (project partners, Boards of Supervisors, neighbors, etc.) to share and celebrate these projects and to encourage future conservation.

b. SVRCD website page with conservation project stories and their many benefits; other resources; overall project summary and appreciation for landowners and partners; press release promoting the website and project summary submitted to known recreation, conservation, and agriculture groups and publications. Refreshments for the tour will be provided in-kind by Plumas-Sierra Cattlewomen and/or Farm Bureau.

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLE	TIMELINE	
	Initiation Date	Completion Date
1. & 2. Award Notification & Signed SNC Contract	February 2013	April 2013
Procure Program Manager & Project Coordinator; begin monthly SNC invoicing.	March 2013	May 2013
Weed treatment contractor selection; completed landowner weed agreements	April 2013	June 2013
Project design & layout and timelines*; pre-project photo monitoring; completed well & weed permits	April 2013	August 2013
Outreach sign development and installation (2 ea); Development and distribution of weeds materials; Development and publication of SVRCD website page with weed and other conservation information and resources	April 2013	December 2013
Landowner meeting: meet the weed treatment	May 2013	June 2013

contractor, review the project plan, provide weed identification and management information; assess learning via pre & post presentation poll. (meeting materials; attendance sheet)		
Individual project implementation and oversight: photo and note documentation; project documents and requests for payment collected by SVRCD; payments made to landowners and contractors as payment is received from SNC.	May 2013	December 2013
Submit 6 month project report	August 2013	September 2013
Tailgate Tour of project sites for landowners & stakeholders; (materials, attendance sheet).	September 2013	November 2013
Website posting and announcement	November 2013	December 2013
Submit 6 month project report	February 2014	March 2014
Weed treatment	June 2014	September 2014
Evaluate Site #1 water system and plan/install needed components to enhance water efficiency and delivery.	April 2014	September 2014
Public outreach: develop SVRCD project content for the website (i.e. landowner stories); support Plumas Sierra Weeds Management Group tour	June 2014	September 2014
Project performance monitoring	June 2014	September 2014
Submit 6 month project report	August 2014	September 2014
Submit 6 month project report	February 2015	March 2015
Weed treatment	June 2015	September 2015
Project performance monitoring	June 2015	September 2015
Submit 6 month project report	August 2015	September 2015
Submit 6 month project report	February 2016	March 2016
Weed treatment	June 2016	September 2016
Project monitoring	June 2016	September 2016
Submit 6 month project report	August 2016	September 2016
Submit Final Project Report	January 2017	March 2017
*Project layout, contracting, and implementation may occur in more than one time frame as projects are scheduled for implementation, depending on project demands, landowner timelines, and site conditions.		

### **c. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements**

#### **Restrictions/Agreements**

The various ranch lands involved in the five improvement project sites are enrolled in one of the following: Land Conservation Act (Williamson Act) or Timberland Protection Zone (TPZ). All proposed project activities fall within county zoning codes.

#### **Regulatory Requirements/Permitting.**

- This project is categorically exempt from CEQA. Notices of Exemption are attached.
- All project activities are on private ranch lands and not subject to NEPA

- A well drilling permit may be required for Site #1, which will be obtained by the contractor prior to project work to meet county codes.
- SVRCD will obtain the required annual Department of Agriculture Pesticide Use Permits for herbicide noxious weed treatments prior to treatment.
- Archaeological and Historical Cultural Resource search is initiated with Northeast Center of the California Historical Resources Information System, and projects will be modified, if needed, in the event search results detect cultural resources at the project sites.
- No threatened or endangered species are in the identified project areas.
- Local government agencies have been notified of the project proposal. .

#### **d. Organizational Capacity**

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD) will act as the project lead and fiscal agent. SVRCD's Board of Directors is committed to ensuring achievement of this project and to leveraging its success to develop future opportunities to increase technical and funding capacity that will benefit SVRCD district, this unique watershed, and 20 million water users in California. The district has conservation project experience and provides conservation leadership for the Sierra Valley watershed region. SVRCD is one of the oldest Special Districts in California, coordinating local conservation and restoration programs for over 60 years. It has conducted an integrated weeds management program for the past six years, funded by both of the Plumas and Sierra County Resource Advisory Committees Title II, Sierra Nevada Conservancy Middle Fork Feather River Weed Management Program, and California Department Food and Agriculture grants. SVRCD has partnered with the US Forest Service on past site restoration projects, including completion of Carman Phase I; and soon-to-begin implementation on Carman Phase II with Sierra Nevada Conservancy as the funding partner.

- The seven SVRCD Directors are landowners and agriculturalists, and many of them have implemented conservation projects on their own properties. They are contributing their personal time to provide volunteer project oversight, monitoring and assistance.
- Project Manager for this project will be selected based on local resource knowledge and established liaison adeptness with the local agriculture community to be served. Volunteer partnerships will be a valuable asset to the success of this project.
- Contractors to be procured: Project management coordination; performance reporting; licensed vegetation management; other contractors (fence, well & solar pump, etc).
- Technical expertise to layout and oversee construction for riparian fencing, irrigation structure design and off-stream stockwater facilities will be provided by Natural Resource and Conservation Service (NRCS) District Conservationist who currently serves the agricultural community as partner of a select number of local resource conservation projects.

#### **e. Cooperation and Community Support**

This project and its elements are outgrowths of various ongoing local conservation activities and collaborations, particularly water quality monitoring and practices and noxious weed management. There is wide support throughout the region for sustainable ranching and agriculture lands conservation partnerships. Numerous letters are

attached (6d) that demonstrate support for this project proposal. The general plans and the Agriculture Department of the counties of Plumas and Sierra support agricultural viability and economy of the rural region and the protection and enhancement of natural resources. NRCS technical standards and services are important to ensure the cost-effectiveness and integrity of projects. Department of Water Resources has invested in water quality projects in this area and supports voluntary conservation the Feather River Watershed. The Plumas-Sierra UC Cooperative Extension Farm and Natural Resource Advisor provides leadership in water quality, resource conservation, and agricultural productivity research and education. Feather River RCD provides complementary weed management practices in its area of Plumas County.

#### **f. Long Term Management and Sustainability**

These site improvement project(s) will occur on private lands managed by generational ranching families within Sierra Valley. The implementation and long term management of these site improvement projects are vital to the sustainability of productive ranch operations, as well as the resources benefits. It is in the landowners' economic and cultural benefit to steward these improvements themselves, which they have the expertise and equipment to do. The landowners and their agricultural enterprises depend upon operable equipment, and they expect to make repairs from time to time.

The long term sustainability of these projects is built in from the beginning, with long term life and practical maintenance included in the plans per NRCS Field Office Technical Guide Standards and adapted for longevity in the Sierra Valley. All of the projects conducted in this project are considered water quality best management practices: off-site stock water systems, riparian fencing, efficient water conduits and structures, and noxious weed control. See attached PLAN.

#### **g. Performance Measures**

Economic Activity: Installation costs and utilization of local vendors will be tracked (*Target: \$200,000+*); re-gained, productive pasture and rangeland.

Jobs Created: The number, type and period of jobs created during the project and the total wages and contracts paid will be measured. *Target: 1 weed contractor, 5 landowner-led construction projects, various outreach and project support contractors and suppliers.*

Number & Diversity of People Reached: Landowners and other project stakeholders, government officials and decision makers, resource professionals will be counted at post-project tail gate tour attendance will be listed.

Resources Leveraged: Volunteer hours; in-kind supplies, equipment, etc.; any subsequent funding received.

Linear Feet of Stream Bank Protection: Linear feet of stream bank protection will be measured on both sides of the stream. *Target: 3 miles.*

Acres of Land Improved: Acres of Land Improved for natural resource protection, water quality, aquatic & terrestrial habitat, resource management: Improved acreage will be mapped & measured. *Target: 2,000 acres.*

Changes in knowledge: Opportunities to assess learning: weed education, other outreach projects, and landowner survey; interest by other landowners to conduct similar projects. Knowledge gained through successful completion of this project will become the foundation of future SVCD programs.

## **h. Budget Narrative**

The project cost elements are cost-effective and realistic, using NRCS materials and labor cost guidelines that also achieve built-in practice longevity and low maintenance cost. Some of the landowners at the five site improvement projects will serve as contractor(s) to install their own projects. These landowners will likely have supplies on hand and will use their own equipment to contain the actual expense for their projects. A licensed vegetation management contractor will be used for herbicide weed control option. Local stakeholders are contributing significant volunteer time for project management, practice design and installation oversight, landowner education and public outreach. Community minded local vendors and contractors, cognizant of the current economic squeeze, will likely provide competitive bids for services needed for the project. A one year \$10,000 balance in Sierra RAC Title II funds and a pending Plumas County RAC for \$14,000 complement this project and will be used for the weed control component and for educational deliverables. Recognizing that the SVRCD continues to gain momentum through the commitment of its volunteer directors; project capacity is provided largely by contractors and volunteers. This project will not generate any revenue. In-kind community support is listed in the budget detail.

PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY	
Direct Costs	\$251,741
Indirect Costs	\$23,755
Total Project Costs	\$275,496
Administrative Costs, 15%	\$41,824
SNC GRANT TOTAL	\$316,820
In-Kind Contributions, 12.9%	\$41,162



**Appendix B4**  
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

Project Name: **Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project**

Applicant: **Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District**

SECTION ONE				Project Cost Breakdown				
DIRECT COSTS	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Year One (2013)	Year Two (2014)	Year Three (2015)	Year Four (2016)	Total
<i>Project Management/Coordination</i>			\$25,000	\$13,250	\$5,250	\$3,250	\$3,250	\$25,000
<i>Site Improvement Restoration Work Costs, Sites #1-#5</i>			\$119,541	\$90,697	\$23,844	\$5,000	\$0	\$119,541
<i>Weeds Uncertain Treatment Areas All Work Costs, Sites #6</i>			\$105,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$105,000
<i>Travel to Project Sites, miles</i>	4000	\$ 0.55	\$2,200	\$1,000	\$600	\$300	\$300	\$2,200
<b>DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:</b>			\$251,741	\$129,947	\$59,694	\$38,550	\$23,550	\$251,741
SECTION TWO				Project Cost Breakdown				
INDIRECT COSTS	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Total
<i>Grant Coordination/ Performance Reporting</i>			\$11,000	\$6,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$11,000
<i>Project Performance Monitoring</i>			\$2,030	\$650	\$660	\$360	\$360	\$2,030
<i>Landowner Education</i>			\$2,250	\$1,200	\$400	\$400	\$250	\$2,250
<i>Public Outreach</i>			\$3,875	\$1,950	\$850	\$850	\$225	\$3,875
<i>Materials &amp; Supplies</i>			\$2,400	\$1,450	\$400	\$350	\$200	\$2,400
<i>Travel, miles</i>	4000	\$ 0.55	\$2,200	\$1,000	\$600	\$400	\$200	\$2,200
<b>INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:</b>			\$23,755	\$12,750	\$4,410	\$3,860	\$2,735	\$23,755
<b>PROJECT TOTAL:</b>			\$275,496	\$142,697	\$64,104	\$42,410	\$26,285	\$275,496
SECTION THREE				Project Cost Breakdown				
Administrative Costs	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Total
<i>SVRCD operating/overhead costs- 15%</i>			\$41,324	\$21,405	\$9,616	\$6,362	\$3,943	\$41,324
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:</b>			\$41,324	\$21,405	\$9,616	\$6,362	\$3,943	\$41,324
<b>SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:</b>			\$316,820	\$164,102	\$73,720	\$48,772	\$30,228	\$316,820
SECTION FOUR				Years Fund Received				
OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Total
<i>NRCS Planning &amp; Monitoring</i>	44	\$ 72.00	\$3,168	\$2,200	\$680	\$288	\$0	\$3,168
<i>Landowners in-kind non-construction support and outreach</i>	150	\$24	\$3,600	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$600	\$600	\$3,600
<i>Upper Feather River Watershed Group outreach assistance, webpage, newsletter</i>	70	\$50	\$3,500	\$1,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$3,500
<i>SVRCD Directors site assistance, monitoring; project management; landowner and contractor liaison; misc</i>	120	\$ 24.00	\$2,880	\$1,400	\$530	\$500	\$450	\$2,880
<i>Plumas-Sierra Cattlewomen and/or Farm Bureau, food: Tail-Gate Tour &amp; Spring weed mtg</i>	3 meals	\$ 500.00	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
<i>University of California Cooperative Extension, weed strategy meeting - speaker and planning</i>	12	\$ 72.00	\$864	\$864	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$864
<i>Plumas-Sierra Weeds Management Group, newsletter, Year 2 Tour</i>			\$1,450	\$50	\$475	\$475	\$450	\$1,450
<i>Sierra RAC Title II Grant, FY 2013 balance</i>			\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
<i>Plumas RAC Title II Grant - pending, 1yr funding FY2013</i>			\$14,200	\$14,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,200
<b>Total Other Contributions: 12.9%</b>			\$41,162	\$31,914	\$3,885	\$2,863	\$2,500	\$41,162



# Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

## Site #6 District Wide Weed Treatment Program

### COST ALLOCATION

#### Weed Treatment Shared Cost for 2013 Treatment Season \*

#### **Vegetation Contractor = \$38,000**

38,000

Grant	Noxious Weed Project	Percent	Amount Allocated
Sierra RAC - balance for 2013	\$10,000	20.3%	\$7,724
Plumas RAC - pending for 2013	\$14,200	28.9%	\$10,967
SNC ** FY 2013 portion	\$25,000	50.8%	\$19,309
Total	\$49,200	100.0%	\$38,000

#### **Materials and Supplies 2013 = \$4,380**

4,380

Grant	Noxious Weed Project	Percent	Amount Allocated
Sierra RAC - balance FY2013	\$10,000	20.3%	\$890
Plumas RAC - pending FY2013	\$14,200	28.9%	\$1,264
SNC FY2013 **	\$25,000	50.8%	\$2,226
Total	\$49,200	100.0%	\$4,380

#### **Monitoring = \$1,350**

1,350

Grant	Noxious Weed Project	Percent	Amount Allocated
Sierra RAC - balance for 2013	\$10,000	20.3%	\$274
Plumas RAC - pending for 2013	\$14,200	28.9%	\$390
SNC ** FY 2013 portion	\$25,000	50.8%	\$686
Total	\$49,200	100.0%	\$1,350

#### **Travel 2013 = \$3,130**

3,130

Grant	Noxious Weed Project	Percent	Amount Allocated
Sierra RAC - balance FY2013	\$10,000	20.3%	\$636
Plumas RAC - pending FY2013	\$14,200	28.9%	\$903
SNC FY2013 **	\$25,000	50.8%	\$1,590
Total	\$49,200	100.0%	\$3,130

\* Both Plumas and Sierra RAC funding are for 2013 fiscal year only.

\*\* Allocations are based on the Weed Treatment Project (Sites #6) Component for 2013.

Weed Treatment is the only shared component of this overall SNC Site Improvement/Restoration Project



## **Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project**

### **6c. Restriction, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements**

A Request for Record Search, Ref# SVRCD 2012-9, has been initiated with the Northeast Center of the California Historical Resources Information System. Report pending. If indicated, projects will be modified prior to installation in the event research results detect cultural resources.

#### **Restrictions / Agreements**

N/A

The proposed projects are all on private lands. Each landowner will sign a SVRCD project agreement that includes the provision giving permission to SVRCD Directors and project contractor(s) access to the project site with reasonable verbal or written notice. There are no known documents that could adversely impact project completion by restricting or encumbering the property.

## **Appendix B3**

### **CEQA/NEPA Compliance Form**

#### **(California Environmental Quality Act & National Environmental Policy Act)**

Instructions: All applicants, including federal agencies, must complete the CEQA compliance section. Check the box that describes the CEQA status of the proposed project. You must also complete the documentation component and submit any surveys, and/or reports that support the checked CEQA status. NOTE: There is no page limit requirement on this form. You may use the space you need to fully describe the CEQA/NEPA status of this project.

If NEPA is applicable to your project, you must complete the NEPA section in addition to the CEQA section. Check the box that describes the NEPA status of the proposed project. Complete the documentation component and submit any surveys, and/or reports that support the NEPA status.

For both CEQA and NEPA, submittal of permits is only necessary if they contain conditions providing information regarding potential environmental impacts.

#### **CEQA STATUS**

##### **(All applicants must complete this section)**

Check the box that corresponds with the CEQA compliance for your project. The proposed action is either "Not a Project" under CEQA; is Categorically Exempt from CEQA; or requires a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or an Environmental Impact Report per CEQA.

☐ **"Not a Project" per CEQA**

1. Describe how your project is "Not a Project" per CEQA:

2. If appropriate, provide documentation to support the "Not a Project" per CEQA status.

☒ **Categorical Exemption or Statutory Exemption**

If a project is categorically exempt from CEQA, all applicants, including public agencies that provide a filed Notice of Exemption, are required to provide a clear and comprehensive description of the physical attributes of the project site, including potential and known special-status species and habitat, in order for the SNC to make a determination that the project is exempt. A particular project that ordinarily would fall under a specific category of exemption may require further CEQA review due to individual circumstances, i.e., it is within a sensitive location, has a cumulative impact, has a significant effect on the environment, is within a scenic highway, impacts an historical resource, or is on a hazardous waste site. Potential cultural/archaeological resources must be noted, but do not need to be specifically listed or mapped at the time of application submittal. Backup data informing the exemption decision, such as biological surveys, Cultural Information Center requests, research papers, etc. should accompany the full application. Applicants anticipating the SNC to file an exemption are

encouraged to conduct the appropriate surveys and submit an information request to an office of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS).

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for claiming a Categorical or Statutory Exemption per CEQA: **Section 15304 Class 4**

This project involves only minor alterations to private ranch and agricultural land and vegetation in the form of: installation of permanent fencing for grazing management in riparian corridors and habitat areas, use of non-restricted herbicide treatments on isolated noxious weed populations, and development of a model off-stream stock watering facility. These planned project activities will have no significant adverse impact in the project area with only minor ground disturbance during installation of fencing, trenching for 2 inch pipeline, development of one agricultural well, and replacement of one irrigation structure located in seasonal conveyance channel. Weed control treatments at all sites will not be ground disturbing and will have no impact on cultural resources.

An archeological and cultural resources record search has been submitted to the Northeast Center of the California Historical Resources Information System. Although no cultural resources are known to be present at the planned project sites, staff and contractors will refer to the data obtained from the search prior to implementation of project work. The activities are not ground disturbing and will not adversely impact cultural resources.

The Sierra Valley RCD will utilize the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's Endangered Species Custom Realtime Internet Bulletin Engine (PRESCRIBE) to identify locations, if any, within the project area where sensitive species may occur. Visual surveys will be conducted to identify endangered, threatened and rare plant species; and herbicide use limits specified in PRESCRIBE will be followed, or weeds will be removed by hand without use of herbicide.

County permits will be acquired for the agricultural well installation needed to supply the solar-powered off-stream stock watering facility. County General Plans for the agriculture zoning of the project area(s) will be adhered to.

Weed treatments will be largely conducted by a licensed contractor. Pesticide use permits and/or individual applicator licenses will be obtained by the project cooperators as required by the Plumas-Sierra Agricultural Commissioner. Herbicide selection will be based on target weed species and any site location restrictions i.e. proximity to adjacent waterways. Isolated plants in sensitive areas or along ditchbanks will be hand-pulled by crews. Where indicated effective, goat grazing will be used for larger infestations in sensitive or wetland areas.

It is reasonably anticipated there will be no significant adverse impacts to the environment for the minor alterations and activities associated with this project as defined under Categorical Exemption 15304 Class 4.

☐ **Environmental Impact Report**

If a project requires an Environmental Impact Report, then applicants must work with a qualified public agency, i.e., one that has discretionary authority over project approval or permitting, to complete the CEQA process.

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of an Environmental Impact Report per CEQA:

2. Submit the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Report along with any Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plans, permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this CEQA status. The EIR documentation must be accompanied by a signed, approved Notice of Determination, which must bear a date stamp to show that it has been filed with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk, as required by CEQA.

**NEPA STATUS**

**(Applicable to federal applicants, some tribal organizations, and applicants receiving federal funding or conducting activities on federal lands)**

Check the box that corresponds with the NEPA compliance for your project.

☐ **Categorical Exclusion**

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for claiming a Categorical Exclusion per NEPA:

2. Submit the signed, approved Decision Memo and Categorical Exclusion, as well as documentation to support the Categorical Exclusion, including any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status:

☐ **Environmental Assessment & Finding of No Significant Impact**

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact per NEPA:

2. Submit the signed, approved Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact along with any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status.



2. If your organization is a state or local governmental agency, submit a signed, approved Notice of Exemption (NOE) documenting the use of the Categorical Exemption or Statutory Exemption, along with any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this CEQA status. The Notice of Exemption must bear a date stamp to show that it has been filed with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk, as required by CEQA.

3. If your organization is a nonprofit or federal agency, there is no other California public agency having discretionary authority over your project, and you would like the SNC to prepare a NOE for your project, let us know that and provide any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support the CEQA status.

- ☐ **Negative Declaration OR**  
☐ **Mitigated Negative Declaration**

If a project requires a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration, then applicants must work with a qualified public agency, i.e., one that has discretionary authority over project approval or permitting, to complete the CEQA process.

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of a Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration per CEQA:

2. Submit the approved Initial Study and Negative Declaration/Mitigated Negative Declaration along with any Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plans, permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this CEQA status. The IS/ND/MND must be accompanied by a signed, approved Notice of Determination, which must bear a date stamp to show that it has been filed with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk, as required by CEQA.

☐ **Environmental Impact Statement**

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of an Environmental Impact Statement per NEPA:

2. Submit the Draft and approved, Final Environmental Impact Statement, along with the Record of Decision and any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status.

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: ☐ Office of Planning & Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District  
PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

**ENDORSED  
FILED**

☒ County Clerk  
County of Sierra

OCT 11 2012

**Project Title:** Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement **HEATHER ROSTER, COUNTY CLERK**

By: *[Signature]*

**Project Location:** Private ranch and agricultural lands located within Sierra Valley which will include both Plumas and Sierra County parcels.

**Description of Project:** This project will increase the connectivity of existing water quality and wildlife habitat enhancement projects on private lands by implementing similar management practices on additional agricultural lands. Water quality and habitat improvement objectives will include the following activities: noxious weed management; targeted broadcast re-vegetation to improve healthy habitat biodiversity; fencing installation for improved grazing management along riparian corridors; and development of one off-stream stockwater facility.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

**Exempt Status (Check one)**

☐ No possible significant environmental effect (Sec. 21082.2; 15061(b)(3));

☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

☒ Categorical Exemption. Section Number: Section 15304 Minor Alterations to Land Class 4  
Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes.

☐ Statutory Exemptions. State Code Number:

☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269)

**Reason why project is exempt:**

This project involves minor alterations to private ranch and agricultural land and vegetation in the form of: installation of permanent fencing for grazing management in riparian corridors and habitat areas, non-restricted herbicide treatment of isolated noxious weed populations, broadcast reseeding of treatment areas where indicated, pipeline installation, and development of a model off-stream stock watering facility.

These planned project activities will have no significant adverse impact in the project area with only minor ground disturbance during fencing, pipeline installation in existing open ditch, and well installation that may be required for the off-stream livestock watering facility at the project sites. Weed control treatments will not be ground disturbing and will have no impact on cultural resources.

An archeological and cultural resources record search has been submitted to the Northeast Center of the California Historical Resources Information System. Although no cultural resources are known to be present at the planned project sites, staff and contractors will refer to the data obtained from the search prior to implementation of project work. Treatment of weed infestations, broadcast reseeding and fence installation are not ground disturbing and will not adversely impact cultural resources

The Sierra Valley RCD will utilize the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's Endangered Species Custom Realtime Internet Bulletin Engine (PRESCRIBE) to identify locations, if any, within the project area where sensitive species may occur. Visual surveys will be conducted to identify endangered, threatened and rare plant species; and herbicide use limits specified in PRESCRIBE will be followed, or weeds will be removed by hand without use of herbicide.

County permits will be acquired for the agricultural well installation that may be required to supply the off-stream stock watering facility. County General Plans for the agriculture zoning of the project area(s) will be adhered to.

Weed control treatments will be largely conducted by a licensed contractor. Pesticide use permits and/or individual applicator licenses will be obtained by the project cooperators as required by the Plumas-Sierra Agricultural Commissioner. Targeted reseeding of project treatment areas with vegetation to prevent re-establishment of noxious weed populations will be completed using a broadcast technique that will involve minimal to no soil disturbance.

It is reasonably anticipated there will be no significant adverse impacts to the environment for the identified activities and minor alterations associated with this project as defined under Categorical Exemption 15304 Class 4.

10-11-12  
Date

Carol Dobbas  
SVRCD Representative

10-11-12  
Date Filed

Holly Weinberg, Deputy  
County Clerk/Deputy

#### Certificate of Posting

I hereby certify that from October 11, 2012 to November 11, 2012 (30 days), I posted a copy of this Notice of Exemption in the Office of the Sierra County Clerk.

By Holly Weinberg, Deputy  
County Clerk/Deputy

Date: 10-11-12

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: ☐ Office of Planning & Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District  
PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

☒ County Clerk  
County of Plumas

---

**Project Title:** Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

**Project Location:** Private ranch and agricultural lands located within Sierra Valley which will include both Plumas and Sierra County parcels.

**Description of Project:** This project will increase the connectivity of existing water quality and wildlife habitat enhancement projects on private lands by implementing similar management practices on additional agricultural lands. Water quality and habitat improvement objectives will include the following activities: noxious weed management; broadcast re-vegetation to improve healthy habitat biodiversity; fencing installation for improved grazing management along riparian corridors; and development of one off-stream stockwater facility.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

**Exempt Status (Check one)**

☐ No possible significant environmental effect (Sec. 21082.2; 15061(b)(3));

☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

☒ Categorical Exemption. Section Number: Section 15304 Minor Alterations to Land Class 4  
Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes.

☐ Statutory Exemptions. State Code Number:

☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269)

**Reason why project is exempt:**

This project involves minor alterations to private ranch and agricultural land and vegetation in the form of: installation of permanent fencing for grazing management in riparian corridors and habitat areas, non-restricted herbicide treatment of isolated noxious weed populations, broadcast reseeding of treatment areas where indicated, pipeline installation and development of an off-stream stock watering facility.

These planned project activities will have no significant adverse impact in the project area with only minor ground disturbance during fencing, pipe installation and optional well installation at the project sites. Weed control treatments will not be ground disturbing and will have no impact on cultural resources.

An archeological and cultural resources record search has been submitted to the Northeast Center of the California Historical Resources Information System. Although no cultural resources are known to be present at the planned project sites, staff and contractors will refer to the data obtained from the search prior to implementation of project work. Treatment of weed infestations, broadcast reseeding and fence installation are not ground disturbing and will not adversely impact cultural resources

The Sierra Valley RCD will utilize the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's Endangered Species Custom Realtime Internet Bulletin Engine (PRESCRIBE) to identify locations, if any, within the project area where sensitive species may occur. Visual surveys will be conducted to identify endangered, threatened and rare plant species; and herbicide use limits specified in PRESCRIBE will be followed, or weeds will be removed by hand without use of herbicide.

County permits will be acquired for the agricultural well installation that may be required to supply the off-stream stock watering facility. County General Plans for the agriculture zoning of the project area(s) will be adhered to.

Weed infestation treatments will be largely conducted by a licensed contractor. Pesticide use permits and/or individual applicator licenses will be obtained by the project cooperators as required by the Plumas-Sierra Agricultural Commissioner. Targeted reseeding of project treatment areas to prevent re-establishment of noxious weed populations will be completed using a broadcast technique that will involve minimal to no soil disturbance.

It is reasonably anticipated there will be no significant adverse impacts to the environment for the identified activities and minor alterations associated with this project as defined under Categorical Exemption 15304 Class 4.

10-11-12  
Date

Carol Dobbas  
SVRCD Representative

10-11-12  
Date Filed

Sue Clark  
County Clerk/Deputy

**Certificate of Posting**

I hereby certify that from 10-11-12 to 11-12-12 (30 days), I posted a copy of this Notice of Exemption in the Office of the Plumas County Clerk.

By Sue Clark  
County Clerk/Deputy

Date: 10-11-12

# SIERRA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors  
P.O. Drawer D  
Downieville, California 95936  
Telephone (530) 289-3295  
Fax (530) 289-2830



October 16, 2012

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern:

The Sierra County Board of Supervisors has reviewed three applications submitted for noxious weed prevention and abatement and other water quality activities in Sierra and Plumas counties under the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Proposition 84 grant program.

While we support the work being proposed in all three grant applications, we consider the application submitted by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District "The Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project" to be the highest priority for our county. This project will greatly benefit and help preserve the agricultural lands in Sierra Valley while meeting the goals of Proposition 84.

Our second priority is the application submitted by the Plumas-Sierra County Agricultural Commissioner for a project for prevention and abatement of noxious weeds in Plumas and Sierra counties. The commissioner's office has worked with land owners and counties for many years to control noxious weeds and this continues to be a significant benefit to, and high priority for, our counties.

We also support as our third priority the work being proposed by the Sierra County Fire Safe and Watershed Council under its application "The Upper Long Valley Creek Agricultural Lands Improvement Project." All work done to prevent and abate noxious weeds in our region is a benefit to agricultural lands and other resources in our county.

Sincerely,

SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. W. Huebner".

Peter W. Huebner  
Chairman

Lee Adams  
District No. 1  
P.O. Box 1  
Downieville, CA 95936

Peter W. Huebner  
District No. 2  
P.O. Box 349  
Sierra City, CA 96125

Bill Nunes  
District No. 3  
P.O. Box 118  
Calpine, CA 96124

David "Dave" Goicoechea  
District No. 4  
P.O. Box 883  
Loyalton, CA 96118

Scott A. Schlefstein  
District No. 5  
P.O. Box 192  
Loyalton, CA 96118

## Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

### 6d. Letters of Support

1. Plumas County Board of Supervisors
2. Sierra County Board of Supervisors
3. Natural Resources Conservation District, District Conservationist
4. Upper Feather River Watershed Group
5. Sierra Valley Mutual Water Company
6. Feather River Land Trust
7. Plumas-Sierra Department of Agriculture
8. Feather River Resource Conservation District



**RESOLUTION NO. 12- 7824**

Before the Board of Supervisors

County of Plumas, State of California

**RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR PROPOSITION 84  
PRESERVATION OF RANCHES AND AGRICULTURAL LANDS GRANT PROGRAM UNDER  
THE SAFE WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND  
COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006.**

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided Funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of a portion of these funds through a local assistance grants program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy require a resolution certifying the approval of application by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (Sierra Valley RCD) governing board before submission of said application to the SNC; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Valley RCD, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the SNC to carry out the project; and

WHEREAS, the County has identified the Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project by the Sierra Valley RCD as valuable toward meeting its mission and goals,

WHEREAS, the County recognizes the collaboration between the Sierra Valley RCD, Feather River RCD and Plumas-Sierra Department of Agriculture to coordinate weed control and management within Plumas County.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas, State of California, that this Board:

Approves the submittal of an application by the Sierra Valley RCD for the Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project for the SNC Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant Program.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas at a regular meeting held October 16, 2012, by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: SUPERVISORS SWOFFORD, THRALL, SIMPSON, KENNEDY, MEACHER

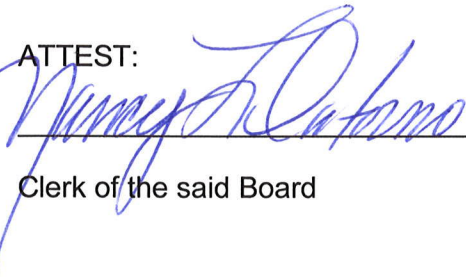
Noes: NONE

Absent: NONE



Chair, Board of Supervisor

ATTEST:



Clerk of the said Board

### ***Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project***

**Project Summary.** The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD) proposes six water quality and habitat enhancement activities within the Sierra Valley that will enhance water, soil and wildlife habitat corridor quality, increase watershed awareness for the public, demonstrate project effectiveness for the ranching and community stakeholders, and support the local ranching economy with improved water quality and forage, and with project installation work. Together, these projects will increase the connectivity of existing water quality and wildlife habitat improvement projects and leverage earlier investments completed on private lands in Sierra Valley.

Sierra Valley and its tributaries are at the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Feather River watershed in the northern Sierra Nevada that provides agricultural and municipal water to over 20 million Californians. Various watershed coalitions and organizations, governmental agencies, land trusts and private landowners have been implementing water quality and wildlife habitat projects on Sierra Valley ranches for many years. There is currently a patchwork of ranches in Sierra Valley that are implementing water quality improvement and wildlife habitat enhancement projects.

**Goals.** The water quality and habitat corridor enhancement goals for the Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project (Project) are: improve water quality; reduce potential sources of erosion; improve water use efficiency; restore healthy vegetation biodiversity through noxious weed containment and control; enhance riparian and habitat areas along waterways and natural springs within the various project sites; and provide various educational components that reflect project outcomes and improve conservation understanding. This will be accomplished by installing 3 miles of riparian fencing to manage 28 acres of riparian areas; installing an off-stream livestock water system; installing 3/4 mile of pipe into an existing dirt waterway; 1300 – 2000 acres of invasive weed control with targeted re-seeding to establish healthy vegetation; project demonstration tour; publication of weed management material; and conservation project signage. The proposed project is comprised of six separate project components on private properties.

**Budget.** This project will be funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's *Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant Program*. Project support will be augmented by numerous Sierra Valley watershed and agricultural stakeholders, including but not limited to Natural Resources Conservation Service technical service, Plumas and Sierra Counties' RAC cost-share funding, and numerous ranching families. Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District directors will personally be involved in project

Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District  
SNC Proposition 84 Bond Act of 2006  
Preserving Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant Program Application  
Project Narrative Description

implementation and management. The costs to implement the conservation practices and oversee the SNC contract will not exceed \$350,000.

**Outcomes.** To be completed by early 2014, the outcomes of this project will benefit the natural community, the public and the local economy. There will be reduced active erosion, improved water quality, increased riparian and habitat benefits, healthier biodiversity on native and non-native vegetation on agricultural lands. Further, local ranchers and stakeholders, including public officials will learn from this project during a tail-gate tour and various other presentations, in the hope it will encourage other conservation projects. Nature-tourists will benefit from an enhanced environmental setting and experience. To support the local economy, landowners and local contractors will be paid 100% of project costs to install these projects; and local vendors will be used where practicable to supply project materials and outreach supplies.

These projects were self-selected by the landowners themselves and the SVRCD. They will be installed with assistance by the project landowners, other community partners and, subsequently managed by the landowners. All practices installed will meet local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) standards and specifications. Grazing management plans will be promoted to sustain effective stewardship for the life of the projects, most for 50 years. Many community stakeholders will make significant in-kind contributions, including the Plumas and Sierra Counties Resource Advisory Committees Secure Rural Schools Title II Funding and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

**Permitting.** The Project meets the requirements for Categorical Exemption for CEQA and a Notice of Exemption will be filed with the County Clerk. Permits required will be landowner pesticide use permits issued by the Agricultural Commissioner for herbicide treatment of noxious weeds and possibly one well permit for the off-stream stockwater facility.

**Summary.** The Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project will be a strategic public investment to leverage and link prior and existing public and private investments in Sierra Valley to enhance its natural resources for all and to support the local agricultural economy in Plumas and Sierra Counties.

# SIERRA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors  
P.O. Drawer D  
Downieville, California 95936  
Telephone (530) 289-3295  
Fax (530) 289-2830



October 16, 2012

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern:

The Sierra County Board of Supervisors has reviewed three applications submitted for noxious weed prevention and abatement and other water quality activities in Sierra and Plumas counties under the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Proposition 84 grant program.

While we support the work being proposed in all three grant applications, we consider the application submitted by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District "The Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project" to be the highest priority for our county. This project will greatly benefit and help preserve the agricultural lands in Sierra Valley while meeting the goals of Proposition 84.

Our second priority is the application submitted by the Plumas-Sierra County Agricultural Commissioner for a project for prevention and abatement of noxious weeds in Plumas and Sierra counties. The commissioner's office has worked with land owners and counties for many years to control noxious weeds and this continues to be a significant benefit to, and high priority for, our counties.

We also support as our third priority the work being proposed by the Sierra County Fire Safe and Watershed Council under its application "The Upper Long Valley Creek Agricultural Lands Improvement Project." All work done to prevent and abate noxious weeds in our region is a benefit to agricultural lands and other resources in our county.

Sincerely,

SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Peter W. Huebner  
Chairman

Lee Adams  
District No. 1  
P.O. Box 1  
Downieville, CA 95936

Peter W. Huebner  
District No. 2  
P.O. Box 349  
Sierra City, CA 96125

Bill Nunes  
District No. 3  
P.O. Box 118  
Calpine, CA 96124

David "Dave" Goicoechea  
District No. 4  
P.O. Box 883  
Loyalton, CA 96118

Scott A. Schlefstein  
District No. 5  
P.O. Box 192  
Loyalton, CA 96118

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
California State Office  
PO Box 3562  
Quincy CA, 95971  
(530) 283-7511  
(530) 283-7736 (Fax)

Helping People Help The Land

To: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

10-12-12

Re: Sierra Valley RCD's *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* application to the SNC Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant Program

I am writing this letter on behalf of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in support of the Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project proposal submitted by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD).

The proposed individual site implementation projects will increase the connectivity of existing water quality and wildlife habitat improvement projects and leverage earlier private and public investments completed on private lands in Sierra Valley. NRCS has been an important partner to the local ranching community in this effort and values additional funding partnerships to expand the water quality and habitat enhancement activities within Sierra Valley and the larger SVRCD district. Additionally, the weed control component of the project proposal is vital to controlling the spread of noxious weeds in the Feather River Watershed, which has been one of the most important long range resource conservation programs that SVRCD and NRCS have collaborated on for several years

The USDA NRCS is committed to assisting with this project by providing in-kind funding match for project assistance in: project design and layout, outreach and awareness activities, post project effectiveness monitoring and evaluating adherence to NRCS National Conservation Practices Standards for SVRCD.

The successful completion of this project will achieve many benefits to this portion of the SNC North Central Sierra Region. Projected outcomes include: increase in agricultural and habitat sustainability, compliment the ongoing water quality efforts of the local ranching community, reduce potential sources of erosion, support agriculture productivity which is an important economic base in this region, and enhance habitat quality through riparian protection and control and containment of bio-degrading noxious weed infestations, increase local jobs throughout project implementation activities.

I fully support this project which complements similar NRCS activity in the district and encourage Sierra Nevada Conservancy to consider funding the SVRCD *Sierra Valley Water Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Martynn", with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Dan Martynn  
District Conservationist  
Plumas / Sierra Co's

October 11, 2012

TO: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

RE: Sierra Valley RCD's *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* application to the SNC Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant Program

The Upper Feather River Watershed Group (UFRWG) supports of the project proposal submitted by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD) for the SNC Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant Program.

The proposed implementation projects, that comprise the overall project, will enhance efforts by the agricultural community to advance water quality management practices. Sierra Valley RCD has been an important partner to the UFRWG in serving the local ranching community in Plumas and Sierra Counties.

This project proposal is important in providing services to the agriculture community through additional funding partnerships to expand ongoing water quality and habitat enhancement activities within Sierra Valley and the larger SVRCD district. The water quality enhancement components and the weeds component make a valuable contribution to the successful stewardship work of local ranch families.

Additionally, the weed control component of the project proposal is vital to controlling the spread of noxious weeds in the Feather River Watershed. The 22 organizational members of the Plumas-Sierra Weeds Management Group, including the Plumas-Sierra Cattlemen and Plumas-Sierra Farm Bureau, work together toward an integrated weeds management plan across the watershed to prevent adverse impacts on both natural resources and ranch grazing lands that will result from un-checked spread of these destructive plants.

The UFRWG is committed to its role in overall watershed enhancement efforts within Plumas and Sierra Counties. We look forward to assisting SVRCD with outreach and awareness activities including the Weeds Newsletter, web pages and links, photo monitoring of project work, and a fall tail-gate tour.

The successful completion of this project will achieve many benefits to this portion of the SNC North Central Sierra Region and compliment the ongoing water quality efforts of the local ranching community.

We encourage Sierra Nevada Conservancy to consider funding the SVRCD *Sierra Valley Water Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* proposal.

Russell Reid

Chairman, UFRWG

## Board of Directors

Russell Reid, Chairman  
Brian Kingdon, DirectorPaul Roen, Vice Chairman  
John Genasci, DirectorCarl Genasci, Sec/Treas.  
Pete Neer, DirectorCarol Dobbas, Executive Director  
Jeff Carmichael, Director

Sierra Valley Mutual Water Company  
7830 County Road A23  
Beckwourth, CA 96129

October 12, 2012

To: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Re: Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

The Sierra Valley Mutual Water Company was established in 1914 to serve Sierra Valley water rights holders and oversee the distribution of agricultural water from the Little Truckee Diversion.

Water rights, water use efficiency, and water quality have all increased in importance and priority over the last few years for ranchers and agriculture production in Sierra Valley.

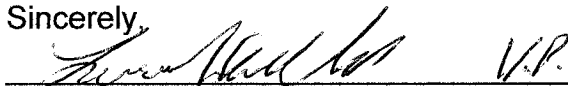
Sierra Valley water users are keenly aware of the heightened importance of their role in water resource issues as part of the larger agricultural community statewide.

Grants and other funding partnerships make it possible for Sierra Valley ranchers to implement management practices that help maintain the good water quality in our watershed and achieve the goal of water resource conservation. Water not only plays a vital role in Sierra Valley agriculture but also contributes to the habitat benefits of open spaces provided by ranch pasture lands and diversity of healthy native vegetation throughout the valley and uplands.

The support of grants and funding partnerships goes a long way in helping ranchers control and eradicate noxious weeds that degrade habitat and agricultural forages, and also makes it possible for Sierra Valley ranchers to consider installing elective management practices that contribute to the good water quality in our watershed.

Sierra Valley is a beautiful place. I urge you to support the efforts by local ranchers to implement water quality management practices and keep noxious weeds under control in our area by supporting the Sierra Valley RCD application for the SNC Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant.

Sincerely,

 V.P.

name and title

Sierra Valley Mutual Water Company



## FEATHER RIVER



## LAND TRUST

*Protecting the Places that Make the Feather River Country Special*

October 16, 2012

P. O. BOX 1826  
QUINCY, CA 95971  
TEL: 530.283.5758  
FAX: 530.283.5745  
Email: [frlt@frlt.org](mailto:frlt@frlt.org)

To: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Re: Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

**Mission Statement**

To conserve land in the Feather River region and steward its ecological and cultural values for current and future generations.

**Board of Directors**

**Carl Chavez**  
*President*

**Ken Roby**  
*Vice President*

**Tom Wood**  
*Secretary*

**Bob Cobb**  
*Treasurer*

**Clare Churchill**

**William Keese**

**Adrienne Stenson**

**Tom Tisch**

**Staff**  
**Paul Hardy**  
*Executive Director*

**Karen Kleven**  
*Development Director*

**Gabe Miller**  
*Land Stewardship Coordinator*

**Katie Bagby**  
*Development Associate*

**Susan Payne**  
*Operations Director*

**Betty Moura**  
*Development Assistant*

The Feather River Land Trust was organized in 2000 to help preserve ranch lands in Sierra Valley and other areas of Upper Feather River Watershed. The FRLT manages 575 acres of ranch land, and holds easements on over 3,000 acres in Sierra Valley.

Habitat preservation, and working landscape enhancement, as well as water resource conservation issues have increased in importance and priority over the last few years for ranchers and agricultural land managers in Sierra Valley.

Sierra Valley private and public ranchland managers are keenly aware of the heightened importance of our roles in resource conservation and preservation, as part of the larger statewide agricultural community.

Grants and other funding partnerships make it possible for Sierra Valley ranchers to implement management practices that help maintain the good water quality in our watershed and achieve the goal of water resource conservation. Water not only plays a vital role in Sierra Valley agriculture but also contributes to the habitat benefits of open spaces provided by ranch pastures and rangelands and ensures diversity of healthy native vegetation throughout the valley and uplands.

The support of grants and funding partnerships goes a long way in helping ranchers control and eradicate noxious weeds that degrade habitat and agricultural forages, and also makes it possible for Sierra Valley ranchers to consider installing elective management practices that contribute to the good water quality in our watershed. Sierra Valley is a beautiful place. I urge you to support the efforts by local ranchers to implement water quality management practices and keep noxious weeds under control in our area by supporting the Sierra Valley RCD application for the SNC Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant.

If I can answer any questions regarding the Feather River Land Trust's support on this project, please do not hesitate to call me at (530) 283-5758.

Sincerely,

Paul Hardy  
Executive Director  
Feather River Land Trust



Keith Mahan  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures  
keithmahan@countyofplumas.com

## Plumas-Sierra Counties Department of Agriculture

**Agriculture Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures**



208 Fairgrounds Road  
Quincy, CA 95971  
Phone: (530) 283-6365  
Fax: (530) 283-4210

To: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Re: Sierra Valley RCD's *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* application to the SNC Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant Program

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Plumas-Sierra Department of Agriculture in support of the Sierra Valley Weeds Management Project proposal submitted by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD).

The proposed individual site implementation projects will increase the connectivity of existing water quality and wildlife habitat improvement projects and leverage earlier private and public investments completed on private lands in Sierra Valley. Sierra Valley RCD has been an important partner to the Plumas-Sierra Department of Agriculture in serving the local ranching community.

This project proposal is important in providing services through additional funding partnerships to expand the water quality and habitat enhancement activities within Sierra Valley and the larger SVRCD district. Additionally, the weed control component of the project proposal is vital to controlling the spread of noxious weeds in the Feather River Watershed, which has been one of the most important long range resource conservation programs that SVRCD and the PS Department of Agriculture have collaborated on in Plumas and Sierra Counties for many years.

The PS Department of Agriculture is committed to assisting with this project by providing coordination of weed control activities, should its own project be funded, for roadside and right-away weed treatments within the SVRCD district and broader star-thistle treatments in other regions of Plumas County. As joint members of the Plumas-Sierra Weeds Management Group, we will assist with outreach and awareness activities, register landowner pesticide use permits for prescribed herbicide treatments and provide weed control management practice information literature to all registrants.

The successful completion of this project will achieve many benefits to this portion of the SNC North Central Sierra Region. Projected outcomes include: increase in agricultural and habitat sustainability, compliment the ongoing water quality efforts of the local ranching community, reduce potential sources of erosion, support agriculture productivity which is an important economic base in this region, and enhance habitat quality through riparian protection and control and containment of bio-degrading noxious weed infestations, increase local jobs throughout project implementation activities.

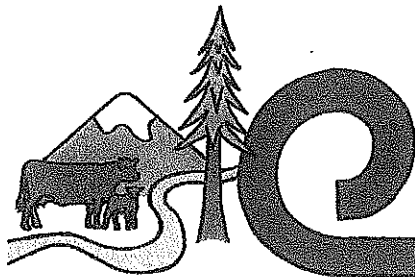
We fully support this project which complements similar PS Department of Agriculture activity in both the Sierra Valley RCD and Feather River RCD districts of the two counties.

We encourage Sierra Nevada Conservancy to consider funding the SVRCD *Sierra Valley Water Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Mahan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Keith" and last name "Mahan" clearly distinguishable.

Keith Mahan,  
Plumas Sierra Counties Agricultural Commissioner



Feather River  
Resource Conservation District

Conservation is Everyone's Business

Board of Directors: Phil Noia ♦ Rick Leonhardt ♦ Phil Broschiani ♦ Nils Lunder ♦ David Arsenault

Re: Sierra Valley RCD's *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* application to the SNC Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands Grant Program

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Plumas-Sierra Department of Agriculture in support of the Sierra Valley Weeds Management Project proposal submitted by the Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD).

The proposed individual site implementation projects will increase the connectivity of existing water quality and wildlife habitat improvement projects and leverage earlier private and public investments completed on private lands in Sierra Valley. Sierra Valley RCD has been an important partner to the Feather River Resource Conservation District (FRRCD) in serving the local ranching community in Plumas County. The FR-RCD serves western valleys in Plumas County while SV-RCD serves eastern Plumas County.

This project proposal is important in providing services through additional funding partnerships to expand the water quality and habitat enhancement activities within Sierra Valley and the larger SVRCD district. Additionally, the weed control component of the project proposal is vital to controlling the spread of noxious weeds in the Feather River Watershed, which has been a vital part of the long range Integrated Weeds Management Program that SVRCD and FRRCD as well as other Plumas-Sierra Weeds Management Group partners have collaborated on in Plumas and Sierra Counties for many years.

The Feather River RCD is committed to assisting in the overall watershed weed control effort with its own star-thistle treatments in other regions of Plumas County. As joint members of the Plumas-Sierra Weeds Management Group, we look forward to assisting with outreach and awareness activities including informational contributions to 2013 publications of the well received Weeds Newsletter developed through past SNC funding.

The successful completion of this project will achieve many benefits to this portion of the SNC North Central Sierra Region. In addition to containment of degrading noxious weeds through a coordinated weeds management program, the SVRCD project will have valuable conservation outcomes including: increase in agricultural and habitat sustainability; compliment the ongoing water quality efforts of the local ranching community; reduce potential sources of erosion; support agriculture productivity which is an important economic base in this region; and enhance habitat quality through riparian protection management practices; and increase local jobs throughout project implementation and outreach activities.

We fully support this project which complements similar efforts throughout the watershed by both the Feather River RCD and the Plumas-Sierra Department of Agriculture.

We encourage Sierra Nevada Conservancy to consider funding the SVRCD *Sierra Valley Water Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* proposal for the overall watershed benefits that will result from successful completion of this type of project.

Sincerely,

*Phil Noia* 10/17/2012

Phil Noia,  
Chairman, Feather River RCD

## 6e. Long Term Management and Sustainability Plan

These site improvement project(s) will occur on private lands managed by generational ranching families within Sierra Valley. The implementation and long term management of these site improvement projects are vital to the sustainability of productive ranch operations, as well as the resources benefits. It is in the landowners' economic and cultural benefit to steward these improvements themselves, which they have the expertise and equipment to do.

Long term life and practical maintenance are built into the project plans per NRCS Field Office Technical Guide Standards and adapted for longevity in the Sierra Valley. Long term maintenance will be the responsibility of each project site landowner at their own expense. SVRCD will include long term management of these projects as part of their project agreements, specifying maintenance and monitoring expectations of the landowners and the monitoring role of SVRCD for 10 years. The Sierra Valley RCD will monitor the projects for stability and function annually for five years post implementation. SVRCD will work with the landowners, NRCS and other potential funders to facilitate future funding partnerships for major repairs or upgrades should they be advisable and practicable.

Weed control and containment conducted within this project will be mapped and shared with Plumas Sierra Weeds Management Group (Group), tracking progress toward eradication. These SNC weed sites will be prioritized for future treatments to ensure cost-effectiveness of investments by SNC and other weeds program funders. SVRCD will monitor the sites for 10 yrs. Recognizing that invasive weed management is a long-term prospect, SVRCD will continue its participation in the Group and help seek subsequent funding to supplement those from this project.

<b><i>Project Year</i></b>	<b><i>Management Activity</i></b>	<b><i>By Whom</i></b>
Year 1 2013	Implementation of Project Work	SVRCD, NRCS, Landowners & Contractors
May- July 2013	Pre-project photo monitoring and mapping	SVRCD, UFRWG, Landowner
June- Nov 2013	Post-implementation photo monitoring and mapping	SVRCD, UFRWG, Landowner
Nov 2013, & annually	Winterize* project where applicable; remove and store any temporary fencing**	Landowner, SVRCD

# Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

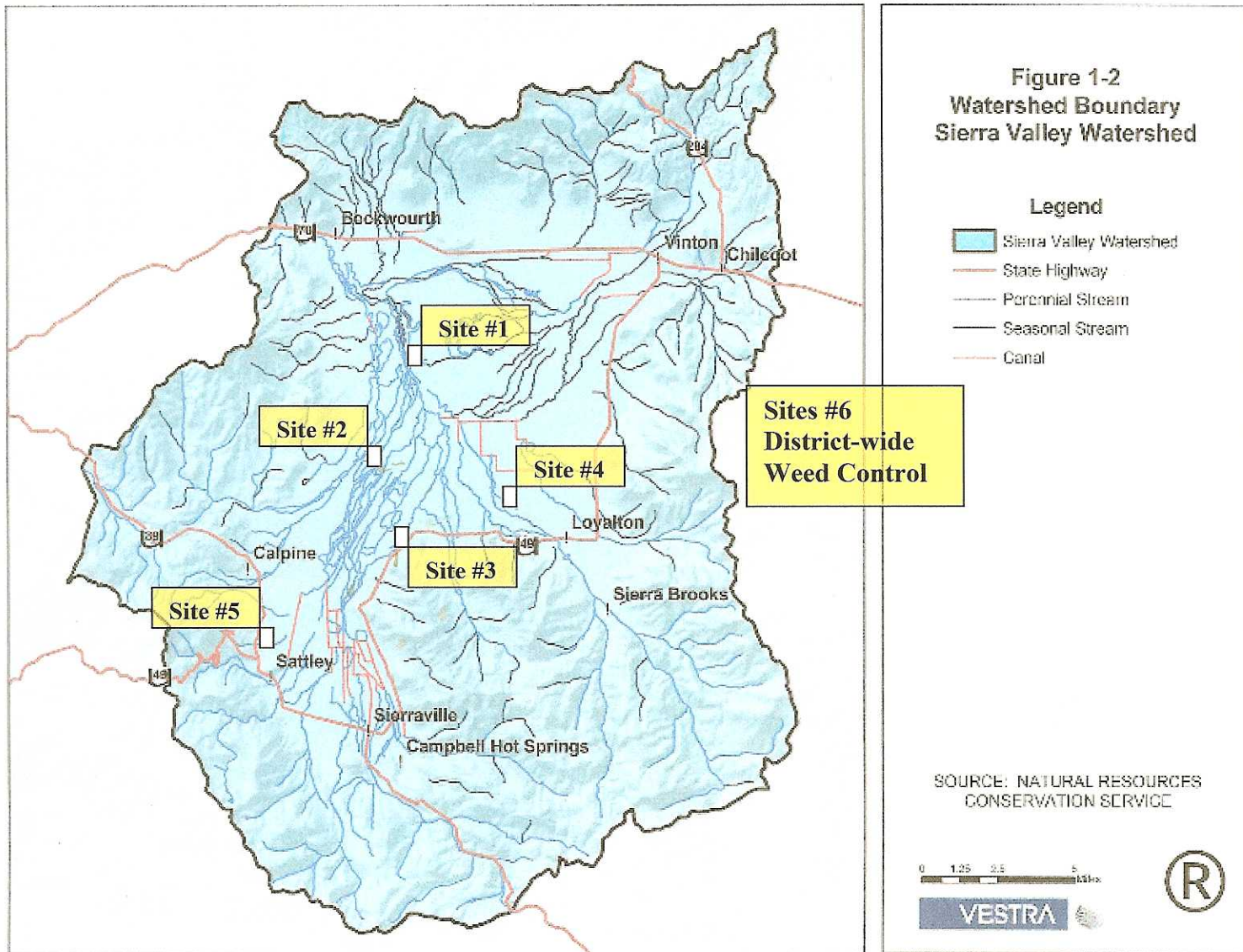
Year 2 May 2014, & annually	Spring Project field visit, evaluation & maintenance; Prior to seasonal grazing, check and repair fencing; check and repair all systems installed	Landowner, SVRCD
Oct 2014	Fall Project evaluation and photo monitoring	Landowner, SVRCD
Years 3-4 2015- 2016	Spring & Fall Project field visit self-evaluation & maintenance	SVRCD conduct landowner satisfaction survey
Year 5 2017	Field visit & Project evaluation for maintenance strategy if needed	SVRCD, NRCS, Landowner
Year 6- 10 2018- 2022	Semi- annual project self-evaluation and maintenance and/or repair as needed.	Landowner
Year 10 2023	Explore partnerships for any needed upgrade or major repair	Landowner, SVRCD, NRCS

- \* Weather-sensitive electrical equipment needs to be protected from winter weather to protect it. All water containing storage containers (troughs, tanks, pipes) are drained to prevent breakage.
- \*\* Temporary electric fencing may be required to provide a 20 foot emergency walkway to waterway so that livestock have access to surface water in event of temporary breakdown of off-stream watering facility.



**Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project**  
**Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District**  
**October 14, 2012**

**Project Location Map**

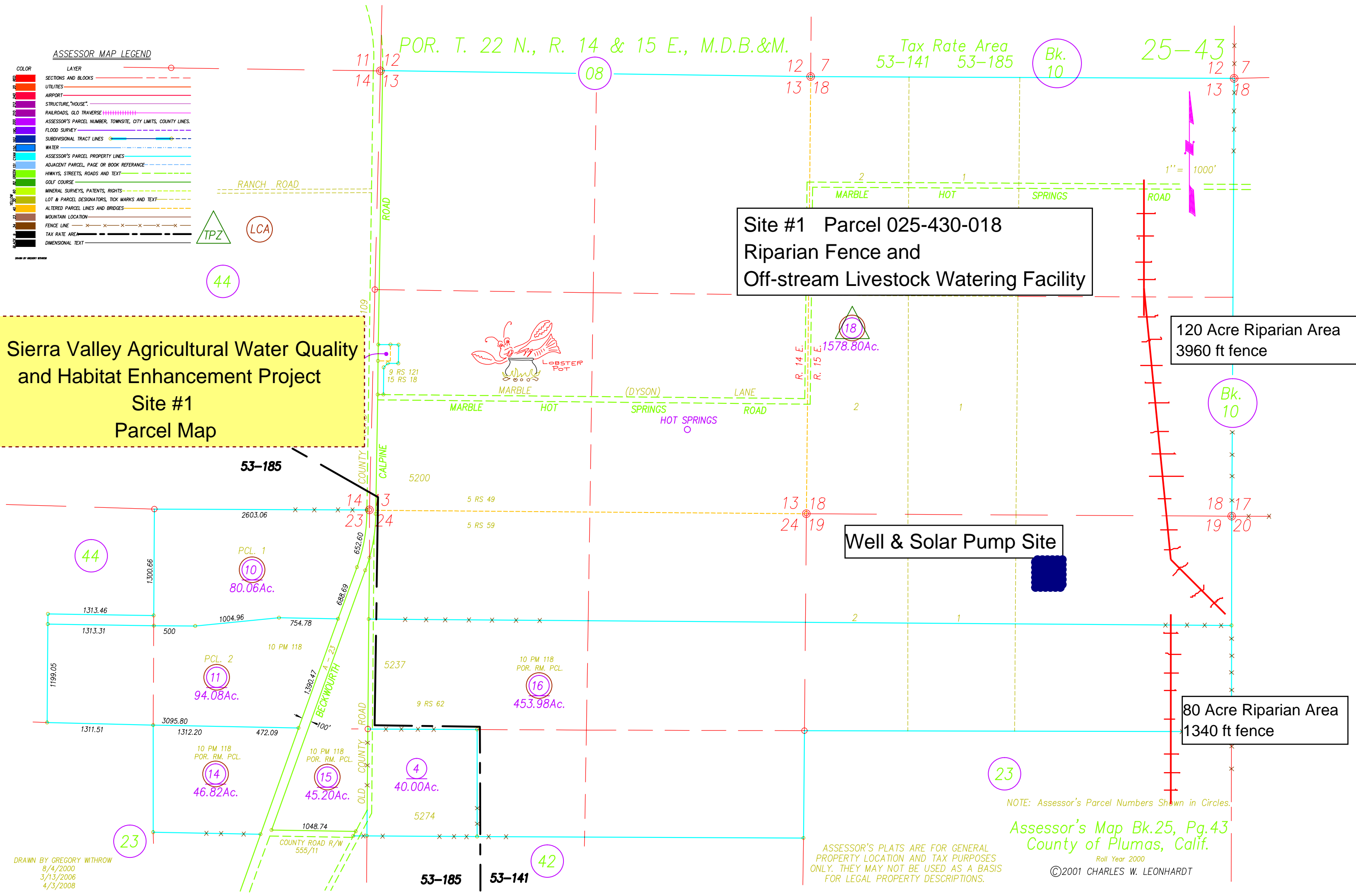


# ASSESSOR MAP LEGEND

COLOR	LAYER
RED	SECTIONS AND BLOCKS
ORANGE	UTILITIES
PURPLE	AIRPORT
PINK	STRUCTURE, "HOUSE"
PURPLE	RAILROADS, GLO TRAVERSE
PURPLE	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER, TOWNSHIP, CITY LIMITS, COUNTY LINES
PURPLE	FLOOD SURVEY
PURPLE	SUBDIVISIONAL TRACT LINES
PURPLE	WATER
PURPLE	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL PROPERTY LINES
PURPLE	ADJACENT PARCEL, PAGE OR BOOK REFERENCE
PURPLE	HIWAYS, STREETS, ROADS AND TEXT
PURPLE	GOLF COURSE
PURPLE	MINERAL SURVEYS, PATENTS, RIGHTS
PURPLE	LOT & PARCEL DESIGNATORS, TICK MARKS AND TEXT
PURPLE	ALTERED PARCEL LINES AND BRIDGES
PURPLE	MOUNTAIN LOCATION
PURPLE	FENCE LINE
PURPLE	TAX RATE AREA
PURPLE	DIMENSIONAL TEXT

DRAWN BY GREGORY WITHROW

## Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project Site #1 Parcel Map

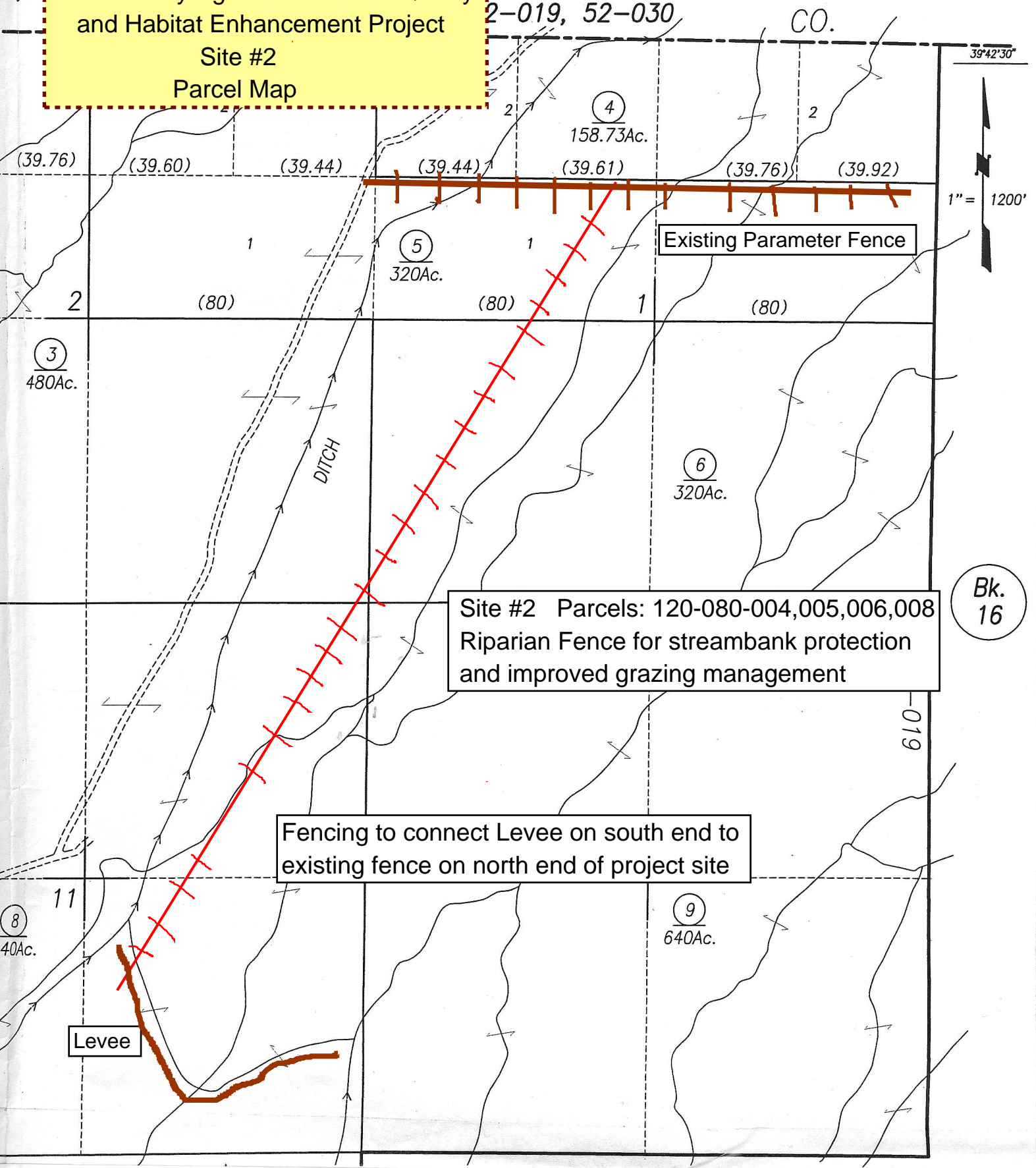




E., Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality  
and Habitat Enhancement Project  
Site #2  
Parcel Map

Tax Rate Area  
2-019, 52-030

12-08



T.21N., R.14E., M.D.B.&M.

120° 22'30"

(08)

Tax Rate Area

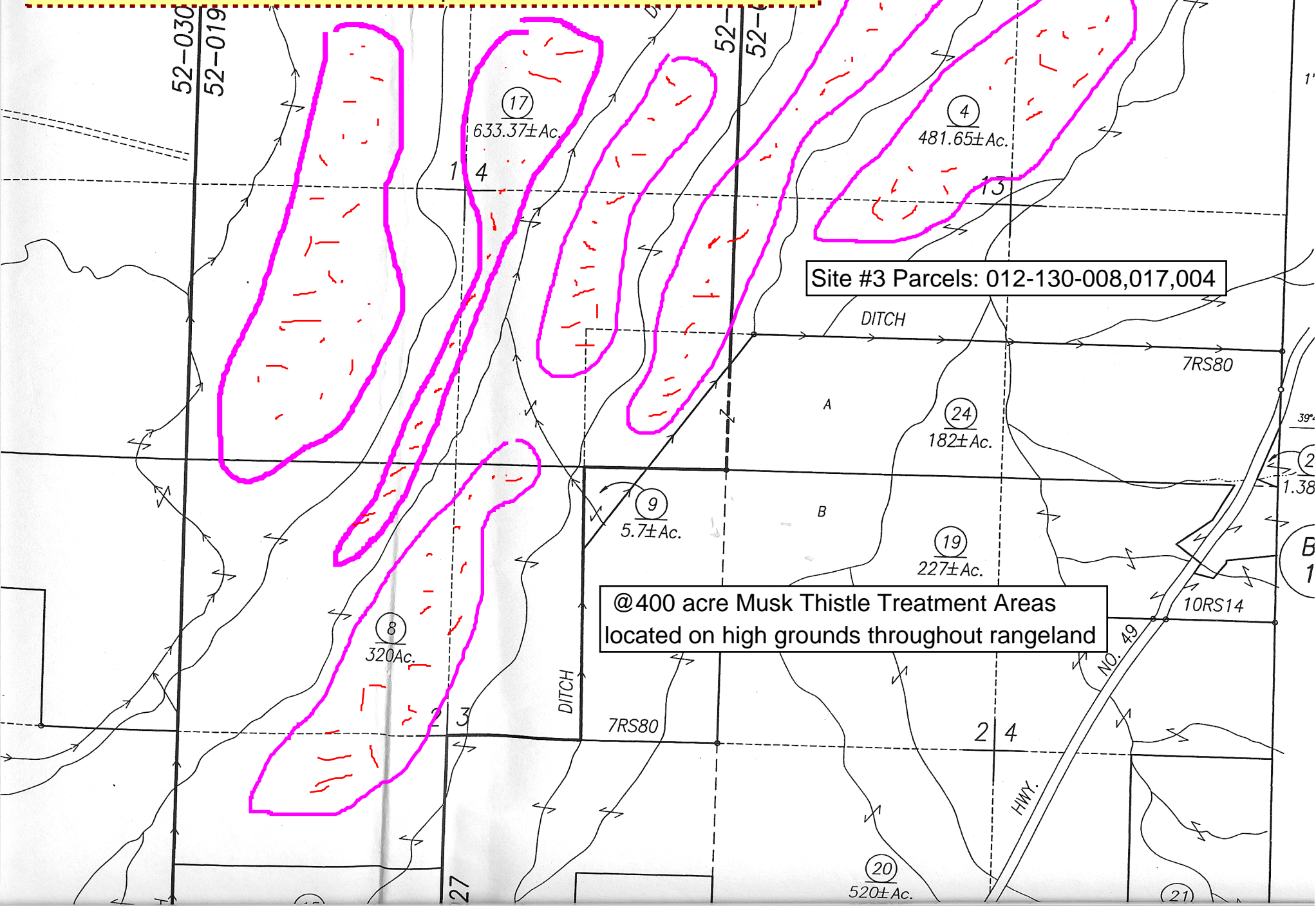
52-019, 52-027, 52-030

12-

Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

Site #3

Parcel Map

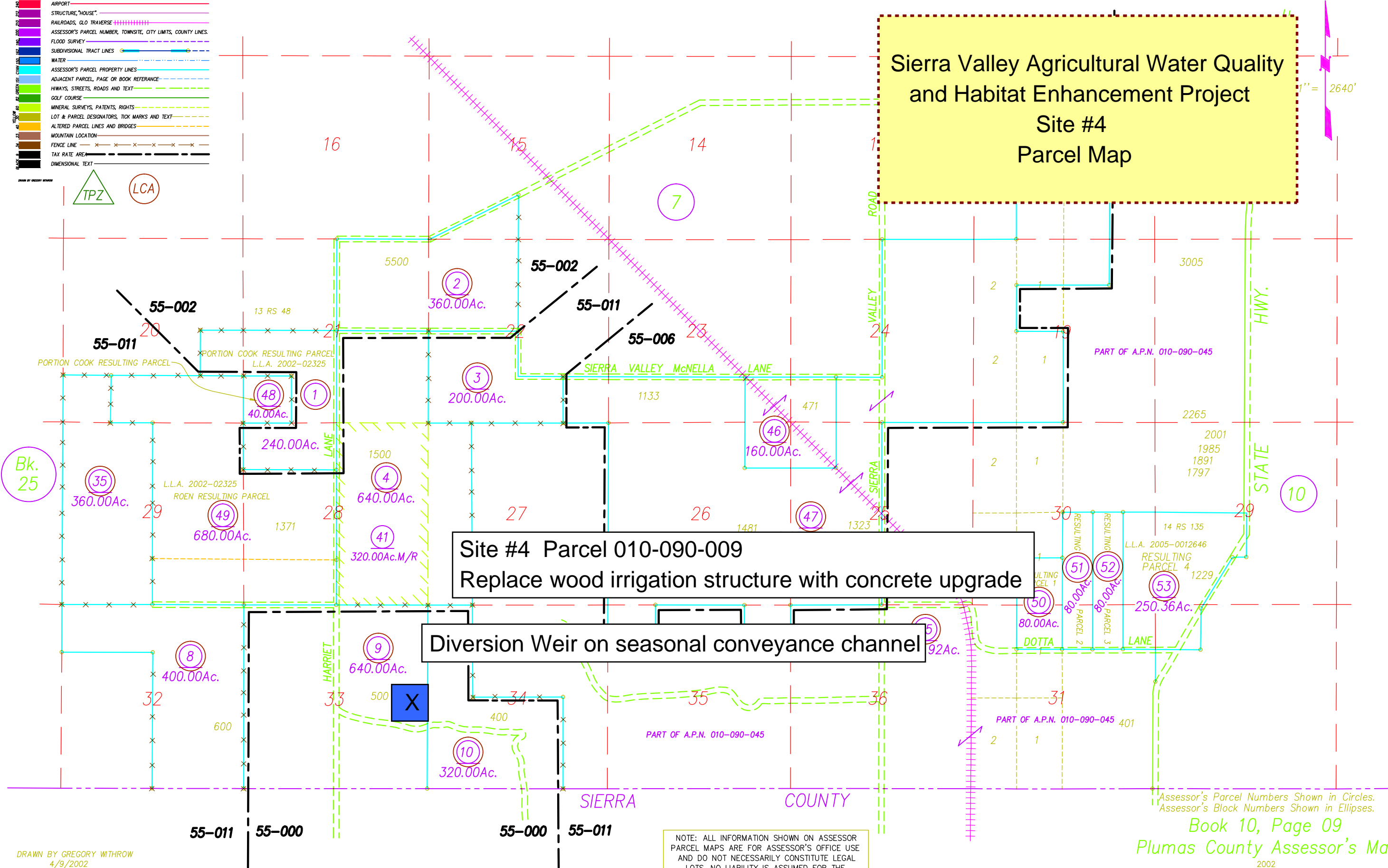


Site #3 Parcels: 012-130-008,017,004

@400 acre Musk Thistle Treatment Areas  
located on high grounds throughout rangeland

ASSESSOR MAP LEGEND

COLOR	LAYER
SECTION AND BLOCKS	
UTILITIES	
AIRPORT	
STRUCTURE, "HOUSE"	
RAILROADS, GLO TRAVERSE	
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER, TOWNSHIP, CITY LIMITS, COUNTY LINES	
FLOOD SURVEY	
SUBDIVISIONAL TRACT LINES	
WATER	
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL PROPERTY LINES	
ADJACENT PARCEL, PAGE OR BOOK REFERENCE	
HIWAYS, STREETS, ROADS AND TEXT	
GOLF COURSE	
MINERAL SURVEYS, PATENTS, RIGHTS	
LOT & PARCEL DESIGNATORS, TICK MARKS AND TEXT	
ALTERED PARCEL LINES AND BRIDGES	
MOUNTAIN LOCATION	
FENCE LINE	
TAX RATE AREA	
DIMENSIONAL TEXT	

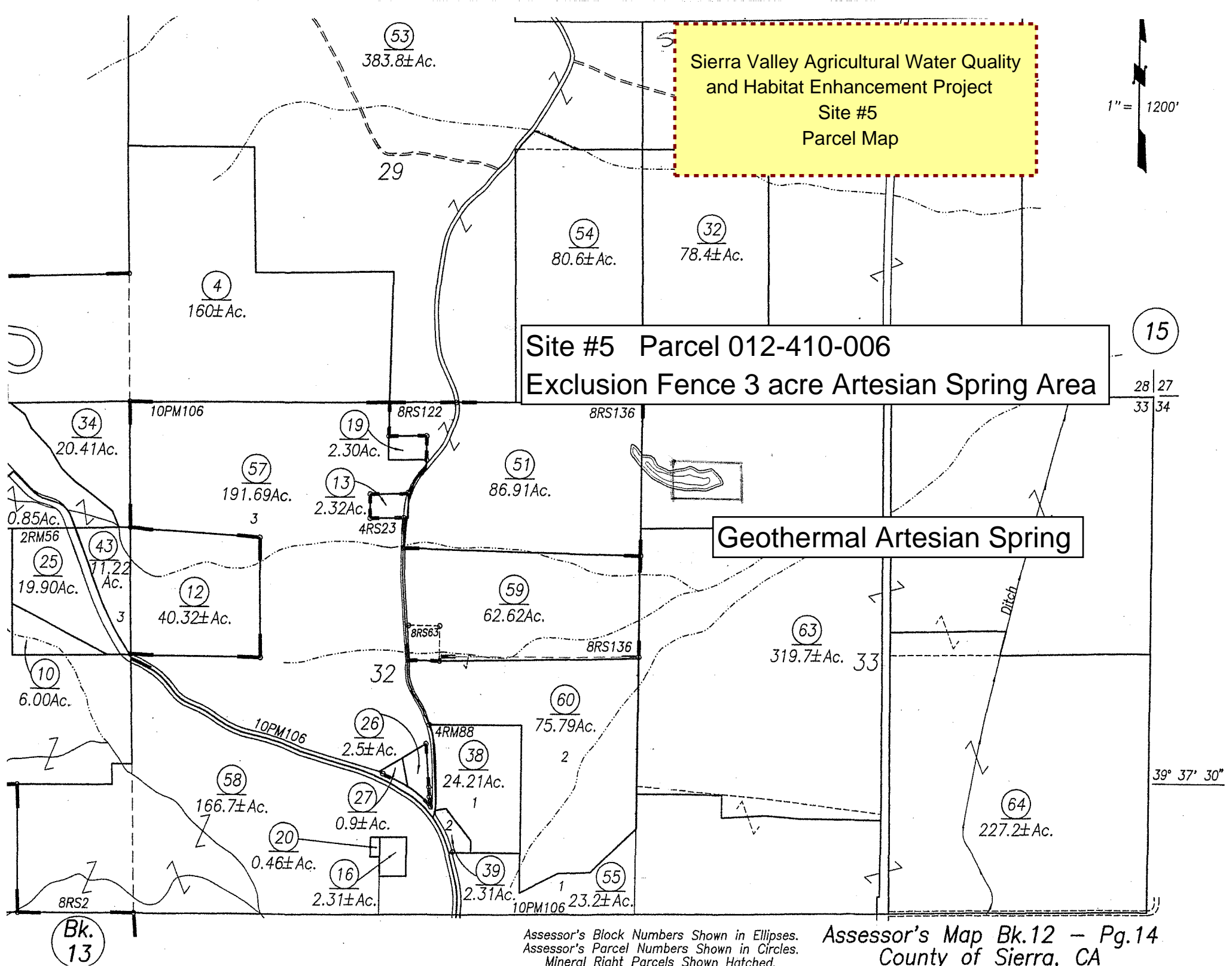


Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality  
and Habitat Enhancement Project  
Site #5  
Parcel Map

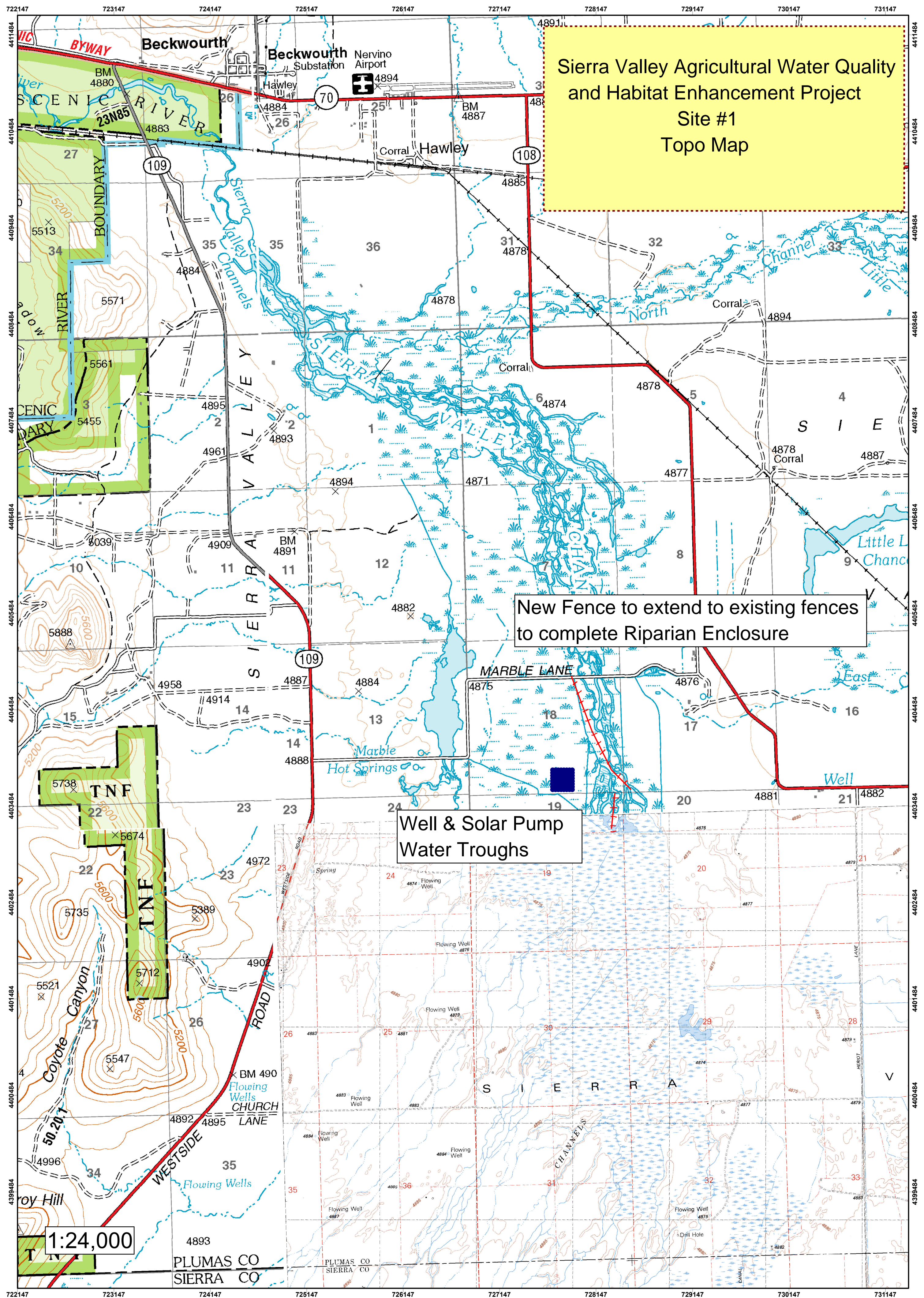
1" = 1200'

Site #5 Parcel 012-410-006  
Exclusion Fence 3 acre Artesian Spring Area

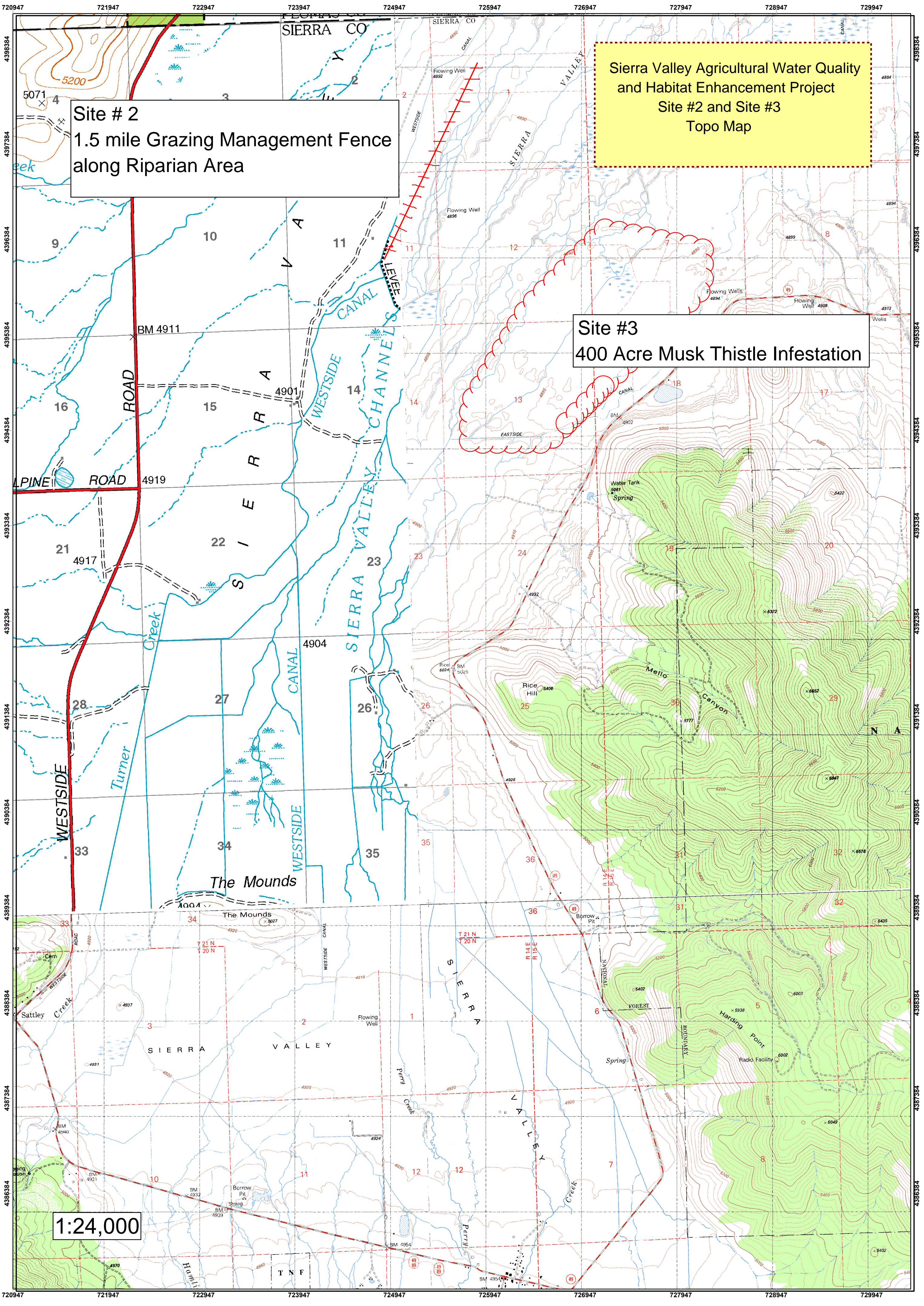
Geothermal Artesian Spring











Site # 2  
1.5 mile Grazing Management Fence  
along Riparian Area

Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality  
and Habitat Enhancement Project  
Site #2 and Site #3  
Topo Map

Site #3  
400 Acre Musk Thistle Infestation

1:24,000



Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality  
and Habitat Enhancement Project  
Site#4  
Topo Map

Diversion Weir replacement to increase water efficiency

Produced by the United States Geological Survey 1981  
Revision by USDA Forest Service 2000

Topography compiled 1974. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1998  
and other sources. Public Land Survey System and survey control current  
as of 1999

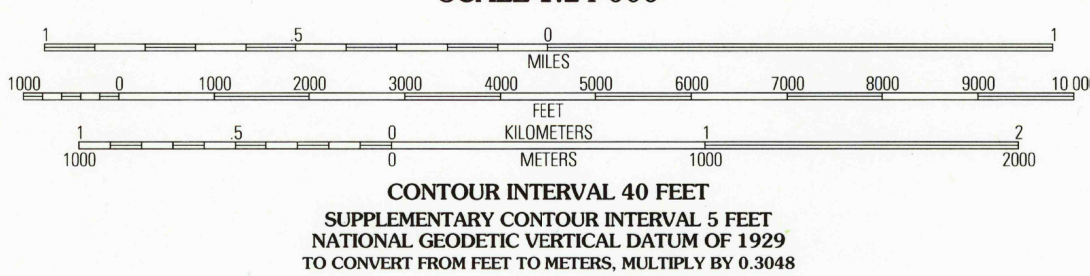
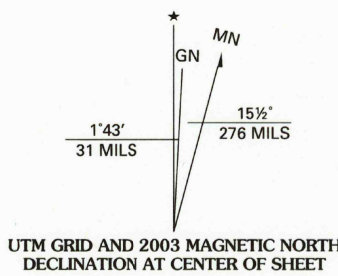
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection: California coordinate  
system, zone 2 (Lambert conformal conic). 10 000-foot grid ticks: California  
coordinate system, zones 2 and 1

Blue 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator ticks, zone 10

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks  
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute  
intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software

Non-National Forest System lands within the National Forest  
holdings may exist in other National or State reservations

This map is not a legal land line or ownership document. Public lands are  
subject to change and leasing, and may have access restrictions; check  
with local offices. Obtain permission before entering private lands



1	2	3	1 Portola 2 Reconnaissance Peak 3 Chalkoon 4 Calpine 5 Loyaltown 6 Santley 7 Sierra Peak 8 Sardine Peak
4	5		
6	7	8	

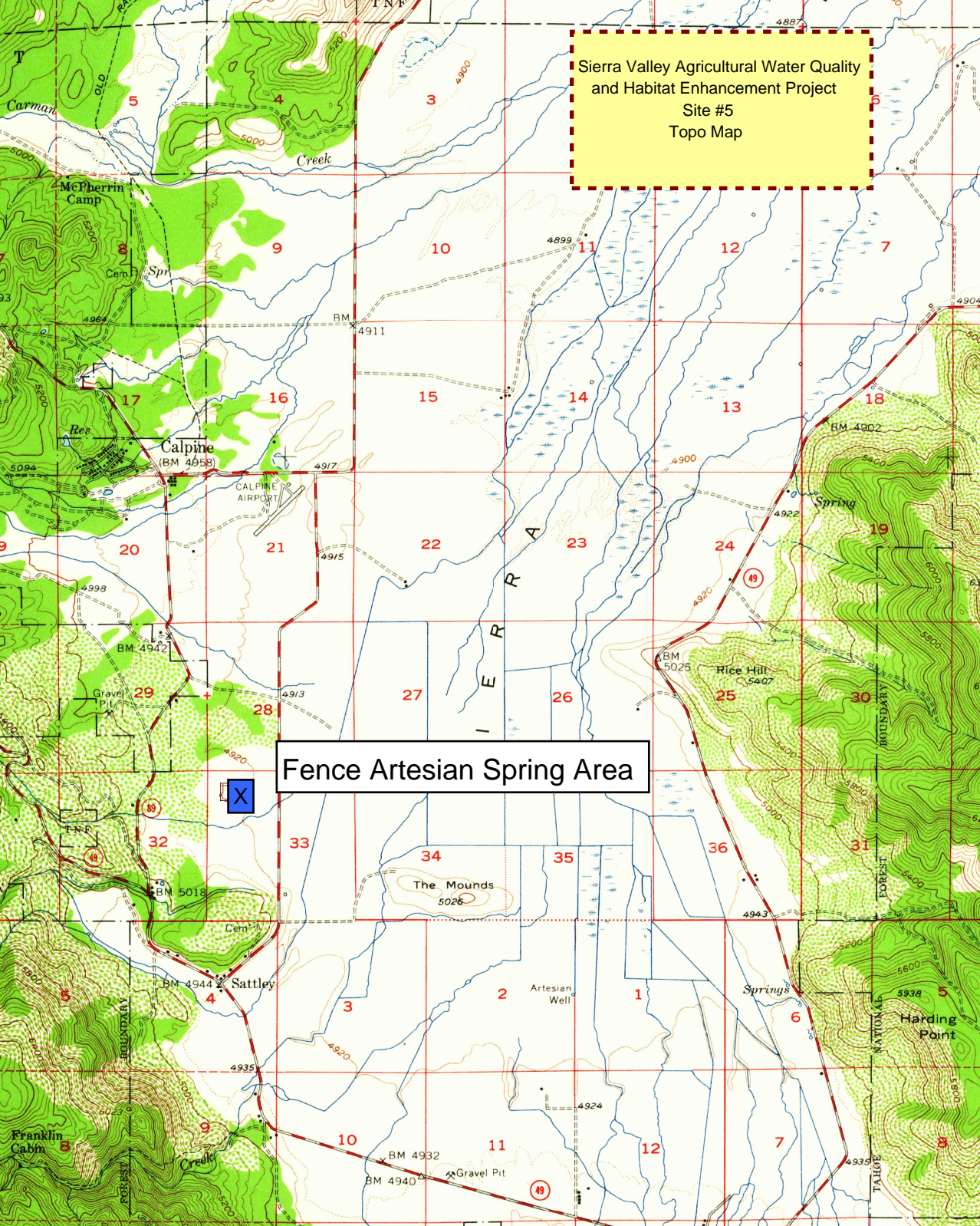
HIGHWAYS AND ROADS	
Interstate	5
U. S.	101
State	79
County	8
National Forest, suitable for passenger cars	105
National Forest, suitable for high clearance vehicles	106
National Forest Trail	304
Primary highway	1
Secondary highway	2
Light-duty road	3
Composition: Unspecified	4
Paved	5
Gravel	6
Dirt	7
Unimproved; 4 wheel drive	8
Trail	9
Gate; Barrier	10

ANTELOPE VALLEY, CA  
2000  
39120-F3-TF-024  
NIMA 1963 III NE-SERIES V895



Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality  
and Habitat Enhancement Project  
Site #5  
Topo Map

Fence Artesian Spring Area



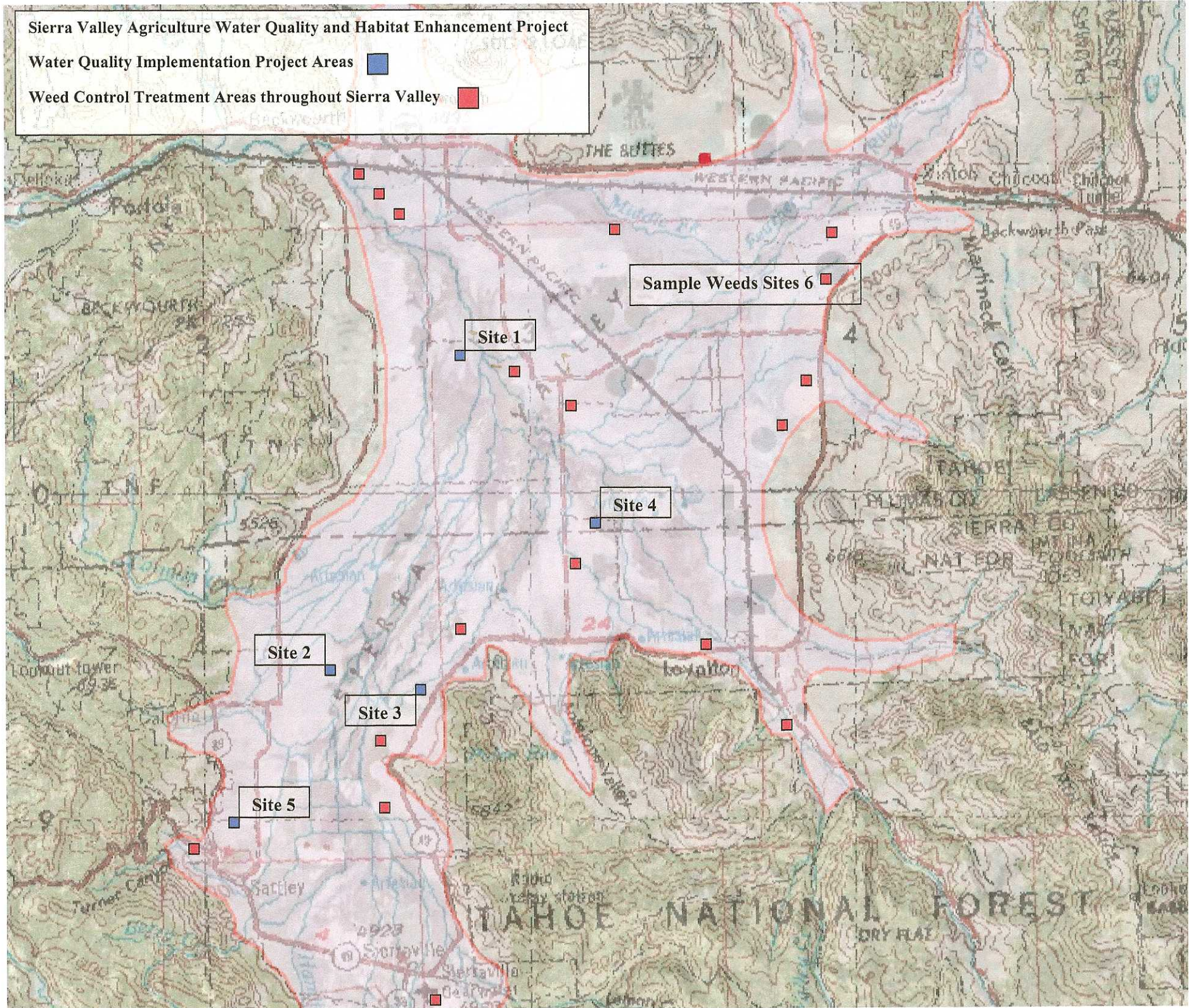


Sierra Valley Agriculture Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

Water Quality Implementation Project Areas



Weed Control Treatment Areas throughout Sierra Valley



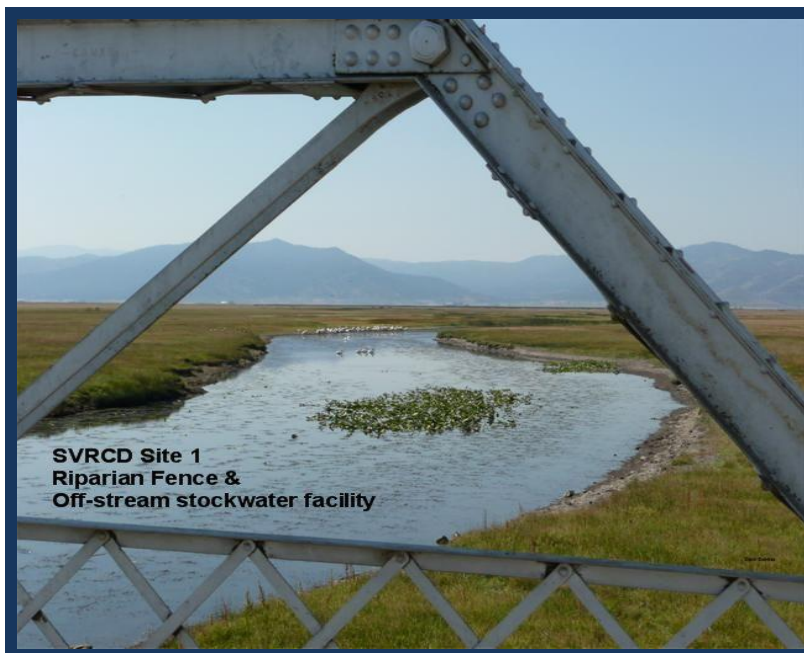


# Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

## PHOTOS OF THE PROJECT SITES

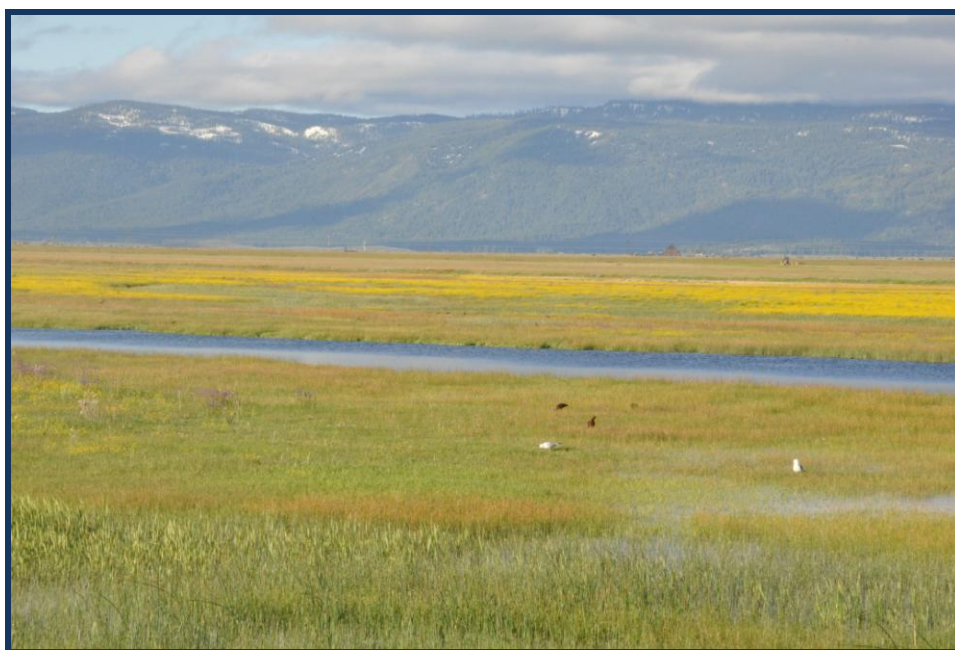
SITE #1.

Riparian Fencing,  
Off-Site Water System



SITE #1.

Riparian  
Area  
for proposed  
fencing &  
development  
of off-site  
livestock  
watering  
system



SITE #2.

Riparian  
Fencing

**SVRCD Site 2**  
**Riparian Fencing for improved Grazing**  
**Management**



SITE #3.

Musk  
Thistle  
Treatment  
on 400  
acre  
infestation

**SVRCD Site 3**  
**Musk Thistle Infestation**  
portion of approx 400 acre treatment area





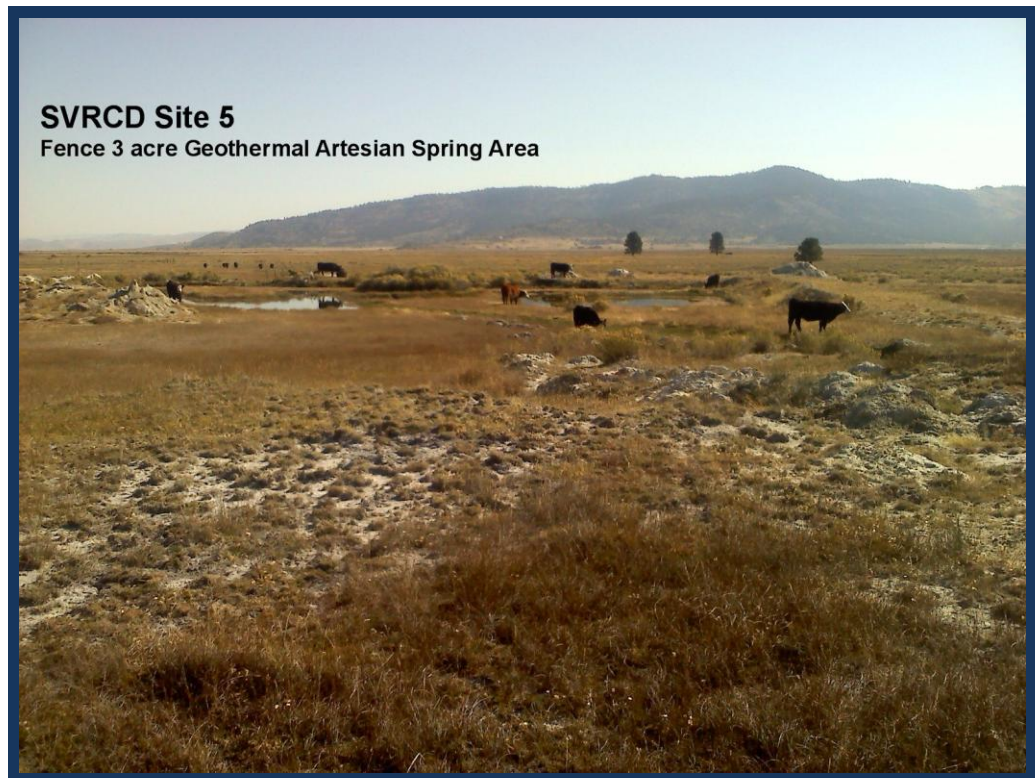
Site #4.

Replace  
wooden  
Irrigation  
Structure to  
reduce  
erosion and  
improve  
water use  
efficiency



SITE #5.

Exclusion  
fencing 3  
acre  
geothermal  
Artesian  
Spring Area





Site #6.

District - wide  
Weed  
Treatment

Perennial  
Pepperweed



Hoary Cress  
Infestation





Sierra Valley  
Habitat  
Enhancement

Canada Geese  
Enjoy Irrigated  
Meadows



Bald Eagles soar  
Pastures



## **Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project**

### **6h. Land Tenure Documents**

Landowner Agreements for Sites #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5 are attached.

Initial Landowner Agreement for Site #6 Weed Control Treatment(s).

Anticipate no less than 20-30 more Landowner Agreements for Site #6 District-wide Weed Control Treatments will be obtained during the planned Weeds Strategy Meeting in May; and throughout the treatment season as additional sites within the *uncertain treatment area* (Grant Guidelines pg 15) are identified and landowner awareness heightens.

The SVRCD Weeds Cooperator Agreement template is attached.



SVRCD

## Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

### Landowner Agreement

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD, is lead agency within its district boundaries to identify, facilitate and coordinate resource conservation projects within its district boundaries, including Plumas, Sierra and a portion of Lassen County.

SVRCD has submitted an application to implement site improvement projects and weed control treatments identified in the ***Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project*** (Project) proposal.

The proposed project(s) for the *Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranch and Agriculture Lands Grant Program* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will require Project area access for project layout and design, project implementation, and project evaluation and monitoring activities.

This cooperative agreement for participation in the above proposed SVRCD resource conservation Project is made and entered into between the SVRCD and the following landowner hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Jeff Carmichael  
Name

76844 Parkside  
Physical Address

Portola Ca 96122  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Portola Ca 96122  
City, State, ZIP

530-832-4319 Cell 530-~~832~~514-4936  
Phone Number(s)



It is agreed that SVRCD and its Project partners will conduct project monitoring to evaluate Project effectiveness by SVRCD and Project funder, Sierra Nevada Conservancy representative(s). All Project access requires notice to the landowner/cooperator and the option to accompany, prior to all entry.

Permission for access is hereby granted to SVRCD and its Project partners to conduct Project activities directly related to the implementation of the agreed upon site improvement and/or weed control component of the *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Project Site # 1 (reference Project Location Map)

**Brief Project Description:**

Install 5300 feet livestock fence to restore & manage  
approximately 200 acres of riparian area at headwaters.  
Develop off-stream livestock watering system, with  
one Ag well and solar powered pumping system to storage tank  
and water troughs

**Physical address and/or directions to this site:**

Marble Hot Springs Rd, South Side, West of River

Section 18 & 19 Township: 22N Range: 15E

Agricultural use of site: Grazing

It is agreed that upon completion of project installation, long term project maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner. If requested by the Cooperator, SVRCD will assist to facilitate further project funding through additional funding sources.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, NRCS, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other project partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

Signature of Landowner

Jeff Carmichael

Landowner's Name & Title (please print)

Jeff Carmichael - Owner

Date 10-14-12

SVRCD Representative

Carol Dobbas

Date 10-14-12



## Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

SVRCD

### Landowner Agreement

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD, is lead agency within its district boundaries to identify, facilitate and coordinate resource conservation projects within its district boundaries, including Plumas, Sierra and a portion of Lassen County.

SVRCD has submitted an application to implement site improvement projects and weed control treatments identified in the ***Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project*** (Project) proposal.

The proposed project(s) for the *Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranch and Agriculture Lands Grant Program* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will require Project area access for project layout and design, project implementation, and project evaluation and monitoring activities.

This cooperative agreement for participation in the above proposed SVRCD resource conservation Project is made and entered into between the SVRCD and the following landowner hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Paul Roen

Name

6261 County Rd A23 Calpine, CA

Physical Address

PO Box

Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Calpine, CA 96124

City, State, ZIP

530-994-3580 h. 209-479-2770 c.

Phone Number(s)

It is agreed that SVRCD and its Project partners will conduct project monitoring to evaluate Project effectiveness by SVRCD and Project funder, Sierra Nevada Conservancy representative(s). All Project access requires notice to the landowner/cooperator and the option to accompany, prior to all entry.

Permission for access is hereby granted to SVRCD and its Project partners to conduct Project activities directly related to the implementation of the agreed upon site improvement and/or weed control component of the *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Project Site # 2 & #3 (reference Project Location Map)

Brief Project Description:

Site # 2 1 mile riparian fence for grazing management

Site # 3 400 +/- acre Musk Thistle Treatment

Physical address and/or directions to this site:

6261 County Rd A23 Colopine, CA 96124

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Agricultural use of site: Livestock grazing

It is agreed that upon completion of project installation, long term project maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner. If requested by the Cooperator, SVRCD will assist to facilitate further project funding through additional funding sources.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, NRCS, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other project partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

Signature of Landowner

P. L. R.

Landowner's Name & Title (please print)

Date 10-12-12

SVRCD Representative

Date 10-12-12

Carol Dobbas

**Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District**

PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

SVRCD

**Landowner Agreement**

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD, is lead agency within its district boundaries to identify, facilitate and coordinate resource conservation projects within its district boundaries, including Plumas, Sierra and a portion of Lassen County.

SVRCD has submitted an application to implement site improvement projects and weed control treatments identified in the **Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project** (Project) proposal.

The proposed project(s) for the *Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranch and Agriculture Lands Grant Program* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will require Project area access for project layout and design, project implementation, and project evaluation and monitoring activities.

This cooperative agreement for participation in the above proposed SVRCD resource conservation Project is made and entered into between the SVRCD and the following landowner hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Greg Ramelli  
Name

400 HARRIOT Lane  
Physical Address

P.O. Box 429  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Loyalton CA. 96118  
City, State, ZIP

(530) 993-4558 cell (530) 519-5580  
Phone Number(s)



It is agreed that SVRCD and its Project partners will conduct project monitoring to evaluate Project effectiveness by SVRCD and Project funder, Sierra Nevada Conservancy representative(s). All Project access requires notice to the landowner/cooperator and the option to accompany, prior to all entry.

Permission for access is hereby granted to SVRCD and its Project partners to conduct Project activities directly related to the implementation of the agreed upon site improvement and/or weed control component of the *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Project Site # 4 (reference Project Location Map)  
Brief Project Description:

Replacement of deteriorated wooden irrigation  
structure with upgraded concrete structure to  
improve water use and improve forage production.  
will compliment existing grazing mgmt fencing & reduce  
erosion

Physical address and/or directions to this site:

400 Harriot Lane Loyalton, CA

Section 34 Township: 22N Range: 15E

Agricultural use of site: Livestock Grazing

It is agreed that upon completion of project installation, long term project maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner. If requested by the Cooperator, SVRCD will assist to facilitate further project funding through additional funding sources.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, NRCS, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other project partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

Signature of Landowner 

Landowner's Name & Title (please print) Greg Rancilli - manager  
Date 10-12-12

SVRCD Representative Carol Dobbas  
Date 10-12-12



## Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

SVRCD

### Landowner Agreement

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD, is lead agency within its district boundaries to identify, facilitate and coordinate resource conservation projects within its district boundaries, including Plumas, Sierra and a portion of Lassen County.

SVRCD has submitted an application to implement site improvement projects and weed control treatments identified in the **Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project** (Project) proposal.

The proposed project(s) for the *Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranch and Agriculture Lands Grant Program* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will require Project area access for project layout and design, project implementation, and project evaluation and monitoring activities.

This cooperative agreement for participation in the above proposed SVRCD resource conservation Project is made and entered into between the SVRCD and the following landowner hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Milton Holstrom  
Name

511 S. Lincoln St  
Cooper  
Physical Address

Physical Address

PO Box 67  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Sierraville Ca 96126  
City, State, ZIP

City, State, ZIP

(530) 412-3608  
Phone Number(s)

Phone Number(s)

It is agreed that SVRCD and its Project partners will conduct project monitoring to evaluate Project effectiveness by SVRCD and Project funder, Sierra Nevada Conservancy representative(s). All Project access requires notice to the landowner/cooperator and the option to accompany, prior to all entry.

Permission for access is hereby granted to SVRCD and its Project partners to conduct Project activities directly related to the implementation of the agreed upon site improvement and/or weed control component of the *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Project Site # 5 (reference Project Location Map)

Brief Project Description:

Exclusion Fence 3 acre natural artesian spring area

Physical address and/or directions to this site:

County Rd A23

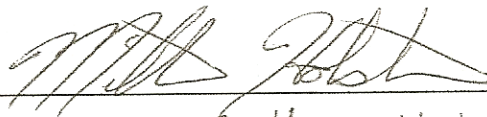
Section 33 Township: 21N Range: 14E

Agricultural use of site: TP2 and grazing rangeland

It is agreed that upon completion of project installation, long term project maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner. If requested by the Cooperator, SVRCD will assist to facilitate further project funding through additional funding sources.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, NRCS, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other project partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

Signature of Landowner



Landowner's Name & Title (please print)

Milton Holstrom Owner

Date 10-14-12

SVRCD Representative

Carol Dobbas

Date 10-14-12

**Invasive Weed Control on Private Lands  
Cooperative Outreach Project  
2013-2016**

**PEST CONTROL AGREEMENT**

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD is conducting an invasive weeds control program within its district boundaries including Plumas, Sierra and portion of Lassen County. The program will focus on Tall Whitetop, Hoary Cress and Musk Thistle control on private and public lands. Other rated A, B and C invasive weeds can be considered. Property owners are eligible to receive assistance through one or more of SVRCD's funding partners including Sierra RAC or Plumas RAC Title II grant programs, or the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands grant program.

An appropriate herbicide will be used, based upon the site location and nearby waterway, if any; which has been determined to be most effective for controlling Tall Whitetop, Hoary Cress, Musk Thistle or other invasive weed. The individual site review process may be conducted by the landowner, the County Agricultural Commissioner's (CAC) Agricultural Biologist, the local University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Farm Advisor, Resource Conservation District representative (RCD), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) employee, or a licensed Pest Control Adviser (PCA). The individual site review process will determine the type of herbicide, rate, application technique and follow-up treatment if indicated.

This cooperative agreement is made and entered into between the, SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner's Agricultural Biologist and the following landowner, hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Gary Romano  
Name

1329 County Rd. 423  
Physical Address

Same  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Beckwarrth, Ca. 96129  
City, State, ZIP

530-832-0114  
Phone Number(s)

It is the intent of this agreement to provide cooperation in the control of the noxious weed, Tall Whitetop (*Lepidium latifolium* L.), or other invasive weed with treatment made during the growing season of 2013 thru 2016 on property owned or controlled by the Cooperator, consisting of approximately 27 acres of land at the following location(s): (see page 3)



Physical address and/or directions to this site: 1329 Co. Rd A23,  
one mile south of Hwy 70

Section: 35 Township: 23N Range: 14E

Agricultural use of site: Organic Farm & Nursery

All pest control operations conducted pursuant to this agreement shall be under the direction of SVRCD who oversees a selected contractor licensed to operate in Plumas-Sierra counties.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other funding partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

In consideration whereof the Cooperator agrees: to:

Provide the information necessary on infested sites, their size, locations, and legal descriptions, and the surrounding environment. *This landowner requests biological control only to adhere to Organic certification.*

1. Provide the information necessary on infested sites, their size, locations, and legal descriptions, and the surrounding environment Obtain an operator identification number or restricted materials permit from the County Agricultural Commissioner.
2. Adhere to all California pesticide laws and regulations concerning the application, safe use, personal protective equipment, and reporting requirements of pesticides.
3. Treatment of property must be made in a timely manner to insure efficacy of the herbicide.
4. Adhere to the application methods, herbicide rate, as prescribed by the individual site review process.
5. Practice accepted cultural and management practices to further reduce noxious weed infestations, and work to prevent the reintroduction of noxious weed infestations onto the sites treated.
6. Noxious weed control is not completed and successful after only one season of treatment. Actual control of Tall Whitetop is expected to be a long-term program.
7. Fill out Pesticide Use Report and send to Plumas-Sierra Counties Department of Agriculture, 208 Fairgrounds Road, Quincy CA 95971 by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month following application. (The SVRCD contractor may complete your report).

Permission is hereby given to allow SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner, their agents and employees and funders, affiliated with this project to enter my property to conduct weed management operations provided a reasonable advance notice is given.

Hay Romant

Signature of Cooperator

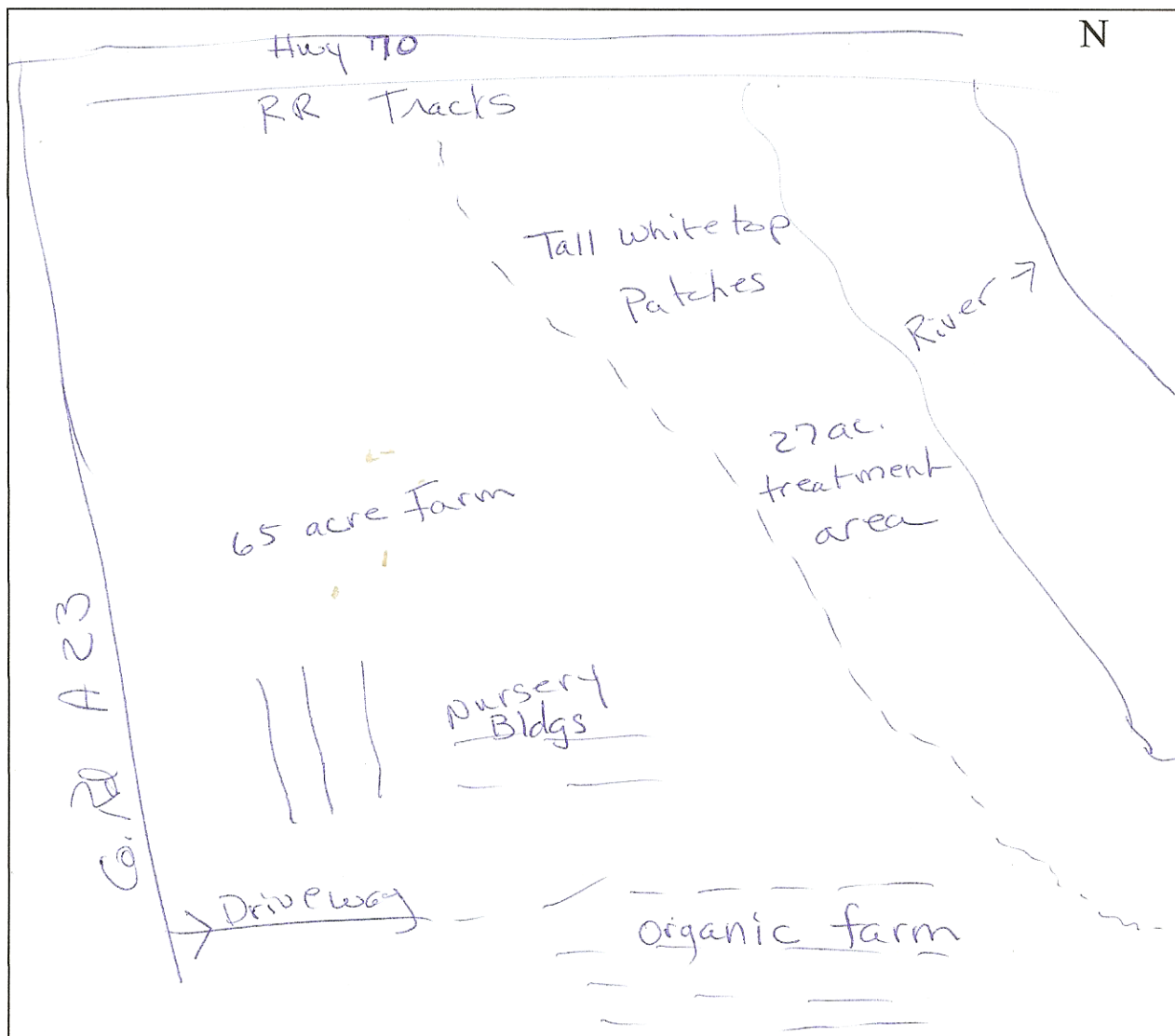
Owner: Sierra Valley Farms

Cooperator's Title and property name, if any

Request Biological Control Option

Date 10-20-12

Acres to be treated at this site: 27 Site number 1 of 3 total sites.



Please provide a simple map in the above box, showing the area of Invasive weed infestation and identify the weed species. The map should provide enough information that a person unfamiliar with the area may locate the site, with roads, ranch headquarters, waterways, and adjoining fields, pastures, etc. designated.

**Invasive Weed Control on Private Lands  
Cooperative Outreach Project  
2013-2016**

**PEST CONTROL AGREEMENT**

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD is conducting an invasive weeds control program within its district boundaries including Plumas, Sierra and portion of Lassen County. The program will focus on Tall Whitetop, Hoary Cress and Musk Thistle control on private and public lands. Other rated A, B and C invasive weeds can be considered. Property owners are eligible to receive assistance through one or more of SVRCD's funding partners including Sierra RAC or Plumas RAC Title II grant programs, or the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands grant program.

An appropriate herbicide will be used, based upon the site location and nearby waterway, if any; which has been determined to be most effective for controlling Tall Whitetop, Hoary Cress, Musk Thistle or other invasive weed. The individual site review process may be conducted by the landowner, the County Agricultural Commissioner's (CAC) Agricultural Biologist, the local University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Farm Advisor, Resource Conservation District representative (RCD), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) employee, or a licensed Pest Control Adviser (PCA). The individual site review process will determine the type of herbicide, rate, application technique and follow-up treatment if indicated.

This cooperative agreement is made and entered into between the, SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner's Agricultural Biologist and the following landowner, hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physical Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number(s)

It is the intent of this agreement to provide cooperation in the control of the noxious weed, Tall Whitetop (*Lepidium latifolium* L.), or other invasive weed with treatment made during the growing season of 2013 thru 2016 on property owned or controlled by the Cooperator, consisting of approximately \_\_\_\_\_ acres of land at the following location(s): (see page 3)

Physical address and/or directions to this site: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Agricultural use of site: \_\_\_\_\_

All pest control operations conducted pursuant to this agreement shall be under the direction of SVRCD who oversees a selected contractor licensed to operate in Plumas-Sierra counties.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other funding partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

In consideration whereof the Cooperator agrees: to:

Provide the information necessary on infested sites, their size, locations, and legal descriptions, and the surrounding environment.

1. Provide the information necessary on infested sites, their size, locations, and legal descriptions, and the surrounding environment Obtain an operator identification number or restricted materials permit from the County Agricultural Commissioner.
2. Adhere to all California pesticide laws and regulations concerning the application, safe use, personal protective equipment, and reporting requirements of pesticides.
3. Treatment of property must be made in a timely manner to insure efficacy of the herbicide.
4. Adhere to the application methods, herbicide rate, as prescribed by the individual site review process.
5. Practice accepted cultural and management practices to further reduce noxious weed infestations, and work to prevent the reintroduction of noxious weed infestations onto the sites treated.
6. Noxious weed control is not completed and successful after only one season of treatment. Actual control of Tall Whitetop is expected to be a long-term program.
7. Fill out Pesticide Use Report and send to Plumas-Sierra Counties Department of Agriculture, 208 Fairgrounds Road, Quincy CA 95971 by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month following application. (The SVRCD contractor may complete your report).

Permission is hereby given to allow SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner, their agents and employees and funders, affiliated with this project to enter my property to conduct weed management operations provided a reasonable advance notice is given.

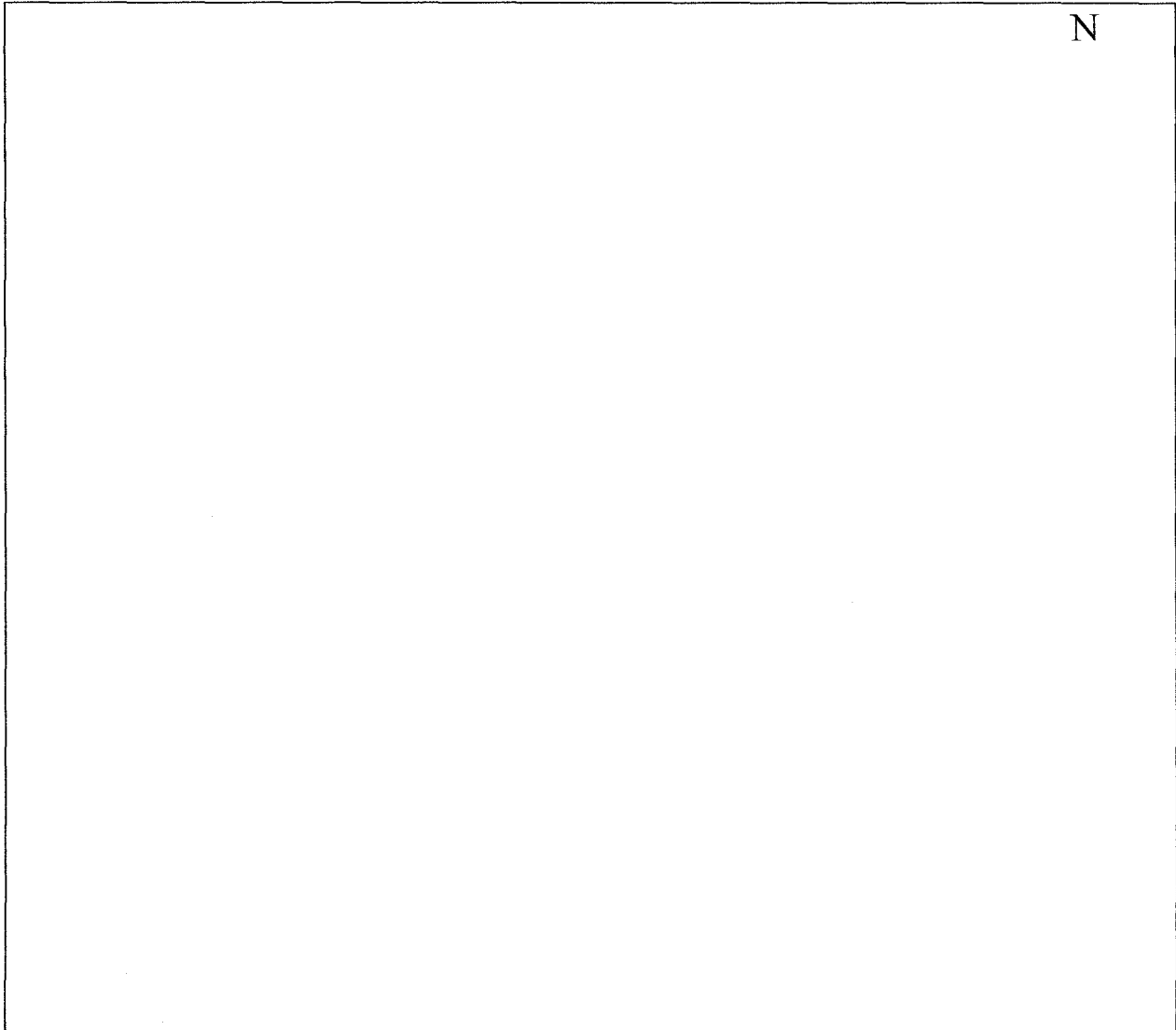
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Cooperator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cooperator's Title and property name, if any

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acres to be treated at this site: \_\_\_\_\_ Site number \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ total sites.

N



Please provide a simple map in the above box, showing the area of Invasive weed infestation and identify the weed species. The map should provide enough information that a person unfamiliar with the area may locate the site, with roads, ranch headquarters, waterways, and adjoining fields, pastures, etc. designated.

## Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

### 6h. Land Tenure Documents

Landowner Agreements for Sites #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5 are attached.

Initial Landowner Agreement for Site #6 Weed Control Treatment(s).

Anticipate no less than 20-30 more Landowner Agreements for Site #6 District-wide Weed Control Treatments will be obtained during the planned Weeds Strategy Meeting in May; and throughout the treatment season as additional sites within the *uncertain treatment area* (Grant Guidelines pg 15) are identified and landowner awareness heightens.

The SVRCD Weeds Cooperator Agreement template is attached.





SVRCD

## Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

### Landowner Agreement

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD, is lead agency within its district boundaries to identify, facilitate and coordinate resource conservation projects within its district boundaries, including Plumas, Sierra and a portion of Lassen County.

SVRCD has submitted an application to implement site improvement projects and weed control treatments identified in the ***Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project*** (Project) proposal.

The proposed project(s) for the *Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranch and Agriculture Lands Grant Program* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will require Project area access for project layout and design, project implementation, and project evaluation and monitoring activities.

This cooperative agreement for participation in the above proposed SVRCD resource conservation Project is made and entered into between the SVRCD and the following landowner hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Jeff Carmichael  
Name

76844 Parkside  
Physical Address

Portola Ca 96122  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)  
City, State, ZIP

530-832-4319 Cell 530-~~832~~514-4936  
Phone Number(s)

It is agreed that SVRCD and its Project partners will conduct project monitoring to evaluate Project effectiveness by SVRCD and Project funder, Sierra Nevada Conservancy representative(s). All Project access requires notice to the landowner/cooperator and the option to accompany, prior to all entry.

Permission for access is hereby granted to SVRCD and its Project partners to conduct Project activities directly related to the implementation of the agreed upon site improvement and/or weed control component of the *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Project Site # 1 (reference Project Location Map)

**Brief Project Description:**

Install 5300 feet livestock fence to restore & manage  
approximately 200 acres of riparian area at headwaters.  
Develop off-stream livestock watering system, with  
one Ag well and solar powered pumping system to storage tank  
and water troughs

Physical address and/or directions to this site:

Marble Hot Springs Rd, South Side, West of River

Section 18 & 19 Township: 22N Range: 15E

Agricultural use of site: Grazing

It is agreed that upon completion of project installation, long term project maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner. If requested by the Cooperator, SVRCD will assist to facilitate further project funding through additional funding sources.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, NRCS, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other project partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

Signature of Landowner

Jeff Carmichael

Landowner's Name & Title (please print)

Jeff Carmichael - Owner

Date 10-14-12

SVRCD Representative

Carol Dobbas

Date 10-14-12





## Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

SVRCD

### Landowner Agreement

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD, is lead agency within its district boundaries to identify, facilitate and coordinate resource conservation projects within its district boundaries, including Plumas, Sierra and a portion of Lassen County.

SVRCD has submitted an application to implement site improvement projects and weed control treatments identified in the ***Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project*** (Project) proposal.

The proposed project(s) for the *Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranch and Agriculture Lands Grant Program* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will require Project area access for project layout and design, project implementation, and project evaluation and monitoring activities.

This cooperative agreement for participation in the above proposed SVRCD resource conservation Project is made and entered into between the SVRCD and the following landowner hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Paul Roen  
Name

6261 County Rd A23 Calpine, CA  
Physical Address

PO Box  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Calpine, CA 96124  
City, State, ZIP

530-994-3580 h. 209-479-2770 c.  
Phone Number(s)

It is agreed that SVRCD and its Project partners will conduct project monitoring to evaluate Project effectiveness by SVRCD and Project funder, Sierra Nevada Conservancy representative(s). All Project access requires notice to the landowner/cooperator and the option to accompany, prior to all entry.

Permission for access is hereby granted to SVRCD and its Project partners to conduct Project activities directly related to the implementation of the agreed upon site improvement and/or weed control component of the *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Project Site # 2 & #3 (reference Project Location Map)

Brief Project Description:

Site # 2 1 mile riparian fence for grazing management

Site # 3 400 +/- acre Musk Thistle Treatment

Physical address and/or directions to this site:

6261 County Rd A23 Colpore, CA 96124

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Agricultural use of site: Livestock grazing

It is agreed that upon completion of project installation, long term project maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner. If requested by the Cooperator, SVRCD will assist to facilitate further project funding through additional funding sources.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, NRCS, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other project partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

Signature of Landowner

P. L. R.

Landowner's Name & Title (please print)

Date 10-12-12

SVRCD Representative

Date 10-12-12

Carol Dobbas

**Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District**

PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

SVRCD

**Landowner Agreement**

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD, is lead agency within its district boundaries to identify, facilitate and coordinate resource conservation projects within its district boundaries, including Plumas, Sierra and a portion of Lassen County.

SVRCD has submitted an application to implement site improvement projects and weed control treatments identified in the **Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project** (Project) proposal.

The proposed project(s) for the *Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranch and Agriculture Lands Grant Program* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will require Project area access for project layout and design, project implementation, and project evaluation and monitoring activities.

This cooperative agreement for participation in the above proposed SVRCD resource conservation Project is made and entered into between the SVRCD and the following landowner hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Greg Ramelli  
Name

400 HARRIOT Lane  
Physical Address

P.O. Box 429  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Loyalton Ca. 96118  
City, State, ZIP

(530) 993-4558 cell (530) 519-5580  
Phone Number(s)

It is agreed that SVRCD and its Project partners will conduct project monitoring to evaluate Project effectiveness by SVRCD and Project funder, Sierra Nevada Conservancy representative(s). All Project access requires notice to the landowner/cooperator and the option to accompany, prior to all entry.

Permission for access is hereby granted to SVRCD and its Project partners to conduct Project activities directly related to the implementation of the agreed upon site improvement and/or weed control component of the *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Project Site # 4 (reference Project Location Map)  
Brief Project Description:

Replacement of deteriorated wooden irrigation  
structure with upgraded concrete structure to  
improve water use and improve forage production.  
will compliment existing grazing mgmt fencing & reduce  
erosion

Physical address and/or directions to this site:

400 Harriot Lane Loyalton, CA

Section 34 Township: 22N Range: 15E

Agricultural use of site: Livestock Grazing

It is agreed that upon completion of project installation, long term project maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner. If requested by the Cooperator, SVRCD will assist to facilitate further project funding through additional funding sources.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, NRCS, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other project partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

Signature of Landowner



Landowner's Name & Title (please print)

Greg Rancilli - manager

Date 10-12-12

SVRCD Representative

Carol Dobbas

Date 10-12-12



## Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District

PO Box 3562  
Quincy, CA 95971

SVRCD

### Landowner Agreement

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD, is lead agency within its district boundaries to identify, facilitate and coordinate resource conservation projects within its district boundaries, including Plumas, Sierra and a portion of Lassen County.

SVRCD has submitted an application to implement site improvement projects and weed control treatments identified in the **Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project** (Project) proposal.

The proposed project(s) for the *Proposition 84 Preservation of Ranch and Agriculture Lands Grant Program* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will require Project area access for project layout and design, project implementation, and project evaluation and monitoring activities.

This cooperative agreement for participation in the above proposed SVRCD resource conservation Project is made and entered into between the SVRCD and the following landowner hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Milton Holstrom  
Name

511 S. Lincoln St  
Cooper  
Physical Address

Physical Address

PO Box 67  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Sierraville Ca 96126  
City, State, ZIP

City, State, ZIP

(530) 412-3608  
Phone Number(s)

Phone Number(s)



It is agreed that SVRCD and its Project partners will conduct project monitoring to evaluate Project effectiveness by SVRCD and Project funder, Sierra Nevada Conservancy representative(s). All Project access requires notice to the landowner/cooperator and the option to accompany, prior to all entry.

Permission for access is hereby granted to SVRCD and its Project partners to conduct Project activities directly related to the implementation of the agreed upon site improvement and/or weed control component of the *Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project* funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Project Site # 5 (reference Project Location Map)

Brief Project Description:

Exclusion Fence 3 acre natural artesian spring area

Physical address and/or directions to this site:

County Rd A23

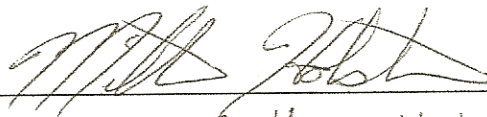
Section 33 Township: 21N Range: 14E

Agricultural use of site: TP2 and grazing rangeland

It is agreed that upon completion of project installation, long term project maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner. If requested by the Cooperator, SVRCD will assist to facilitate further project funding through additional funding sources.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, NRCS, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other project partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

Signature of Landowner



Landowner's Name & Title (please print)

Milton Holstrom Owner

Date 10-14-12

SVRCD Representative

Carol Dobbas

Date 10-14-12



**Invasive Weed Control on Private Lands  
Cooperative Outreach Project  
2013-2016**

**PEST CONTROL AGREEMENT**

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD is conducting an invasive weeds control program within its district boundaries including Plumas, Sierra and portion of Lassen County. The program will focus on Tall Whitetop, Hoary Cress and Musk Thistle control on private and public lands. Other rated A, B and C invasive weeds can be considered. Property owners are eligible to receive assistance through one or more of SVRCD's funding partners including Sierra RAC or Plumas RAC Title II grant programs, or the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands grant program.

An appropriate herbicide will be used, based upon the site location and nearby waterway, if any; which has been determined to be most effective for controlling Tall Whitetop, Hoary Cress, Musk Thistle or other invasive weed. The individual site review process may be conducted by the landowner, the County Agricultural Commissioner's (CAC) Agricultural Biologist, the local University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Farm Advisor, Resource Conservation District representative (RCD), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) employee, or a licensed Pest Control Adviser (PCA). The individual site review process will determine the type of herbicide, rate, application technique and follow-up treatment if indicated.

This cooperative agreement is made and entered into between the, SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner's Agricultural Biologist and the following landowner, hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

Gary Romano  
Name

1329 County Rd. 423  
Physical Address

Same  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

Beckwarrth, Ca. 96129  
City, State, ZIP

530-832-0114  
Phone Number(s)

It is the intent of this agreement to provide cooperation in the control of the noxious weed, Tall Whitetop (*Lepidium latifolium* L.), or other invasive weed with treatment made during the growing season of 2013 thru 2016 on property owned or controlled by the Cooperator, consisting of approximately 27 acres of land at the following location(s): (see page 3)

Physical address and/or directions to this site: 1329 Co. Rd A23,  
one mile south of Hwy 70

Section: 35 Township: 23N Range: 14E

Agricultural use of site: Organic Farm & Nursery

All pest control operations conducted pursuant to this agreement shall be under the direction of SVRCD who oversees a selected contractor licensed to operate in Plumas-Sierra counties.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other funding partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

In consideration whereof the Cooperator agrees: to:

Provide the information necessary on infested sites, their size, locations, and legal descriptions, and the surrounding environment. *This landowner requests biological control only to adhere to Organic certification.*

1. Provide the information necessary on infested sites, their size, locations, and legal descriptions, and the surrounding environment Obtain an operator identification number or restricted materials permit from the County Agricultural Commissioner.
2. Adhere to all California pesticide laws and regulations concerning the application, safe use, personal protective equipment, and reporting requirements of pesticides.
3. Treatment of property must be made in a timely manner to insure efficacy of the herbicide.
4. Adhere to the application methods, herbicide rate, as prescribed by the individual site review process.
5. Practice accepted cultural and management practices to further reduce noxious weed infestations, and work to prevent the reintroduction of noxious weed infestations onto the sites treated.
6. Noxious weed control is not completed and successful after only one season of treatment. Actual control of Tall Whitetop is expected to be a long-term program.
7. Fill out Pesticide Use Report and send to Plumas-Sierra Counties Department of Agriculture, 208 Fairgrounds Road, Quincy CA 95971 by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month following application. (The SVRCD contractor may complete your report).

Permission is hereby given to allow SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner, their agents and employees and funders, affiliated with this project to enter my property to conduct weed management operations provided a reasonable advance notice is given.

Hay Romant

Signature of Cooperator

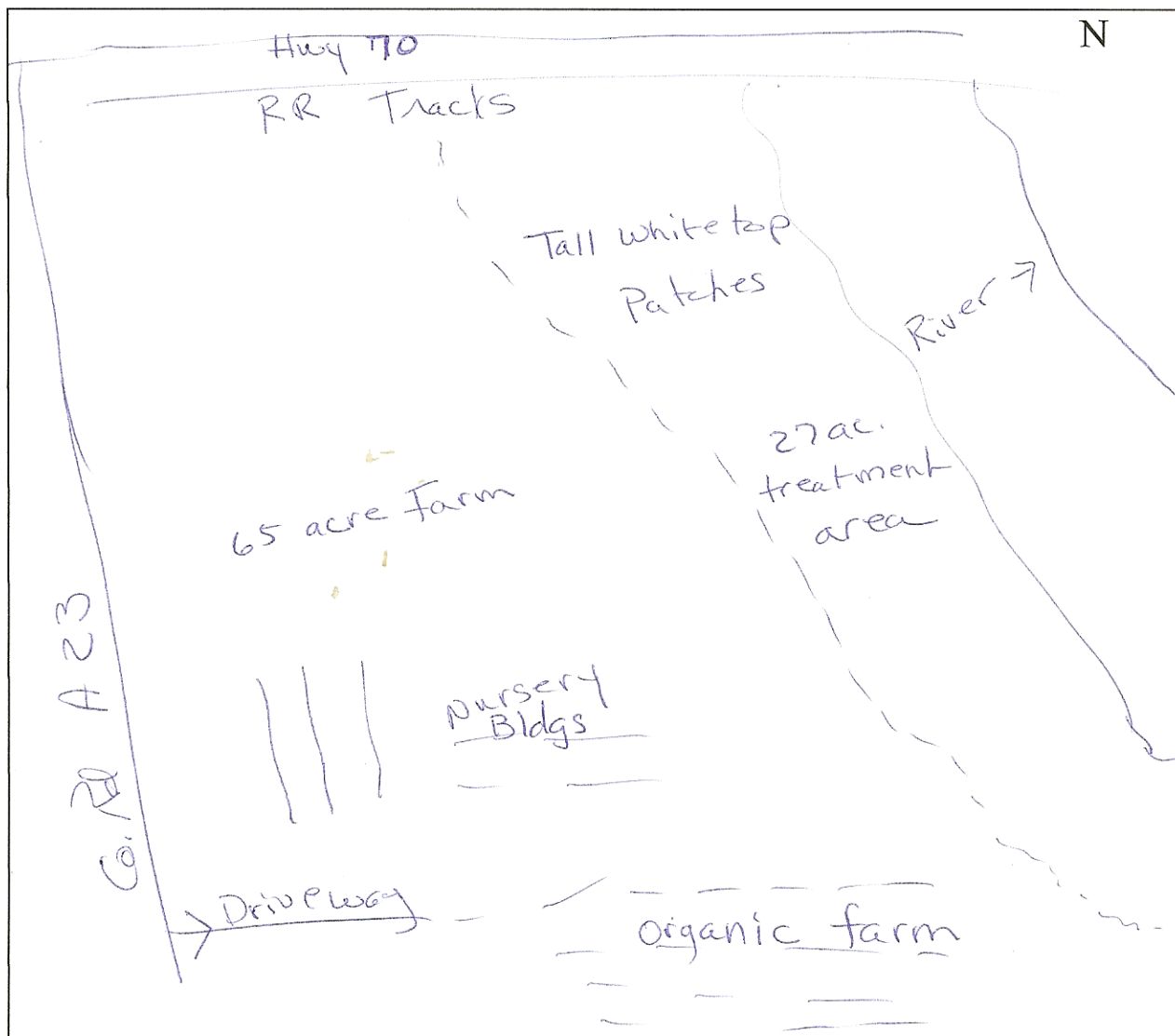
Owner: Sierra Valley Farms

Cooperator's Title and property name, if any

Request Biological Control Option

Date 10-20-12

Acres to be treated at this site: 27 Site number 1 of 3 total sites.



Please provide a simple map in the above box, showing the area of Invasive weed infestation and identify the weed species. The map should provide enough information that a person unfamiliar with the area may locate the site, with roads, ranch headquarters, waterways, and adjoining fields, pastures, etc. designated.

**Invasive Weed Control on Private Lands  
Cooperative Outreach Project  
2013-2016**

**PEST CONTROL AGREEMENT**

The Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District, hereafter referred to as SVRCD is conducting an invasive weeds control program within its district boundaries including Plumas, Sierra and portion of Lassen County. The program will focus on Tall Whitetop, Hoary Cress and Musk Thistle control on private and public lands. Other rated A, B and C invasive weeds can be considered. Property owners are eligible to receive assistance through one or more of SVRCD's funding partners including Sierra RAC or Plumas RAC Title II grant programs, or the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Preservation of Ranches and Agricultural Lands grant program.

An appropriate herbicide will be used, based upon the site location and nearby waterway, if any; which has been determined to be most effective for controlling Tall Whitetop, Hoary Cress, Musk Thistle or other invasive weed. The individual site review process may be conducted by the landowner, the County Agricultural Commissioner's (CAC) Agricultural Biologist, the local University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Farm Advisor, Resource Conservation District representative (RCD), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) employee, or a licensed Pest Control Adviser (PCA). The individual site review process will determine the type of herbicide, rate, application technique and follow-up treatment if indicated.

This cooperative agreement is made and entered into between the, SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner's Agricultural Biologist and the following landowner, hereinafter designated as the Cooperator:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physical Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (if different from physical address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number(s)

It is the intent of this agreement to provide cooperation in the control of the noxious weed, Tall Whitetop (*Lepidium latifolium* L.), or other invasive weed with treatment made during the growing season of 2013 thru 2016 on property owned or controlled by the Cooperator, consisting of approximately \_\_\_\_\_ acres of land at the following location(s): (see page 3)



Physical address and/or directions to this site: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Agricultural use of site: \_\_\_\_\_

All pest control operations conducted pursuant to this agreement shall be under the direction of SVRCD who oversees a selected contractor licensed to operate in Plumas-Sierra counties.

The Cooperator will hold SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner, SNC and other funding partners, their agents and employees, and all other affiliated with this project harmless from any actions, demands, costs, claims, liability, attorney's fees and expenses for injury to or death of any and all persons and destruction of or damage to any and all property caused by or arising out of this cooperative project.

In consideration whereof the Cooperator agrees: to:

Provide the information necessary on infested sites, their size, locations, and legal descriptions, and the surrounding environment.

1. Provide the information necessary on infested sites, their size, locations, and legal descriptions, and the surrounding environment Obtain an operator identification number or restricted materials permit from the County Agricultural Commissioner.
2. Adhere to all California pesticide laws and regulations concerning the application, safe use, personal protective equipment, and reporting requirements of pesticides.
3. Treatment of property must be made in a timely manner to insure efficacy of the herbicide.
4. Adhere to the application methods, herbicide rate, as prescribed by the individual site review process.
5. Practice accepted cultural and management practices to further reduce noxious weed infestations, and work to prevent the reintroduction of noxious weed infestations onto the sites treated.
6. Noxious weed control is not completed and successful after only one season of treatment. Actual control of Tall Whitetop is expected to be a long-term program.
7. Fill out Pesticide Use Report and send to Plumas-Sierra Counties Department of Agriculture, 208 Fairgrounds Road, Quincy CA 95971 by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month following application. (The SVRCD contractor may complete your report).

Permission is hereby given to allow SVRCD, the County Agricultural Commissioner, their agents and employees and funders, affiliated with this project to enter my property to conduct weed management operations provided a reasonable advance notice is given.

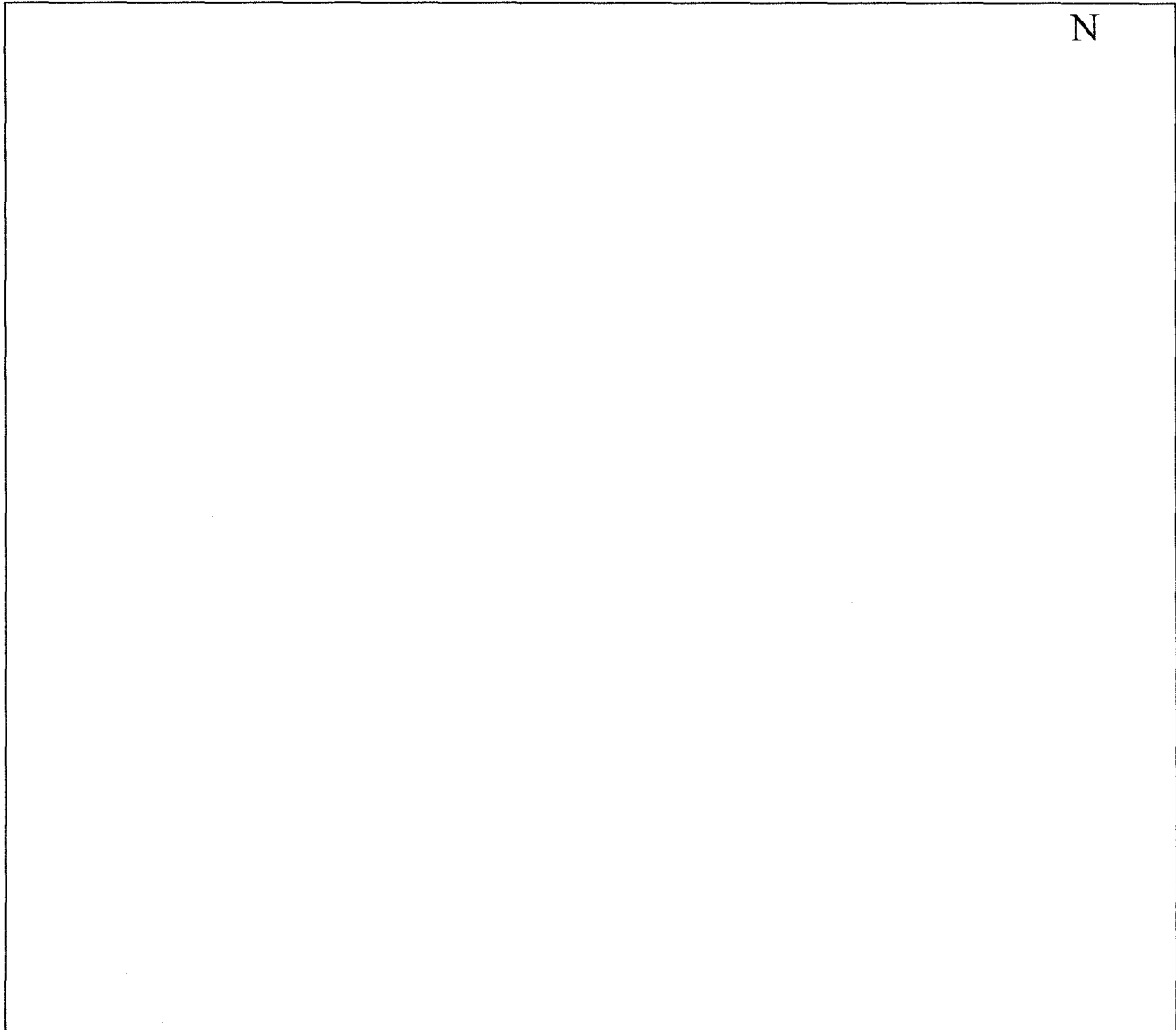
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Cooperator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cooperator's Title and property name, if any

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acres to be treated at this site: \_\_\_\_\_ Site number \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ total sites.

N



Please provide a simple map in the above box, showing the area of Invasive weed infestation and identify the weed species. The map should provide enough information that a person unfamiliar with the area may locate the site, with roads, ranch headquarters, waterways, and adjoining fields, pastures, etc. designated.



## **Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project**

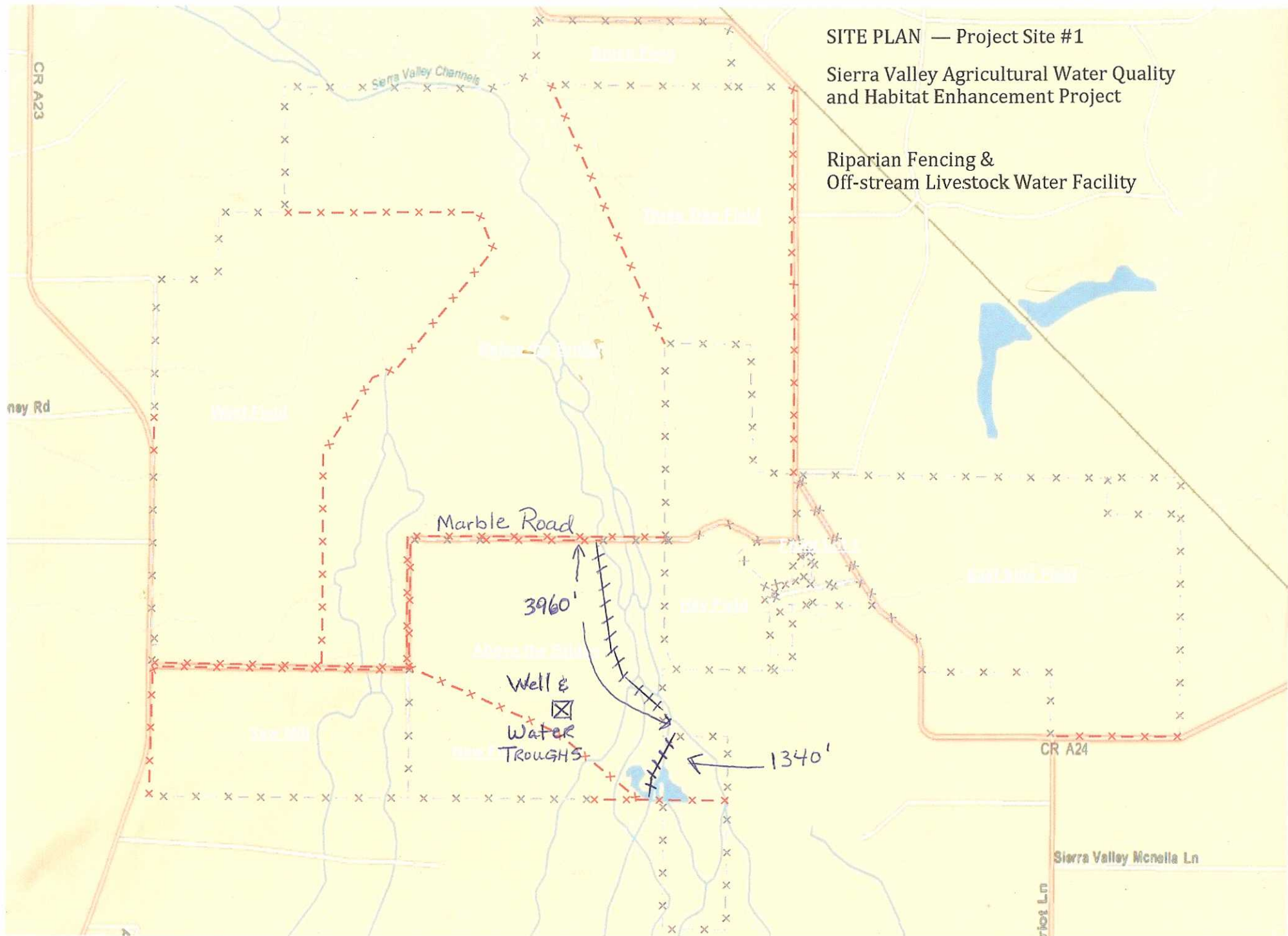
### **6h. Site Plan**

Site Plans for Improvement/Restoration Projects #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5 are attached.

SITE PLAN — Project Site #1

Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality  
and Habitat Enhancement Project

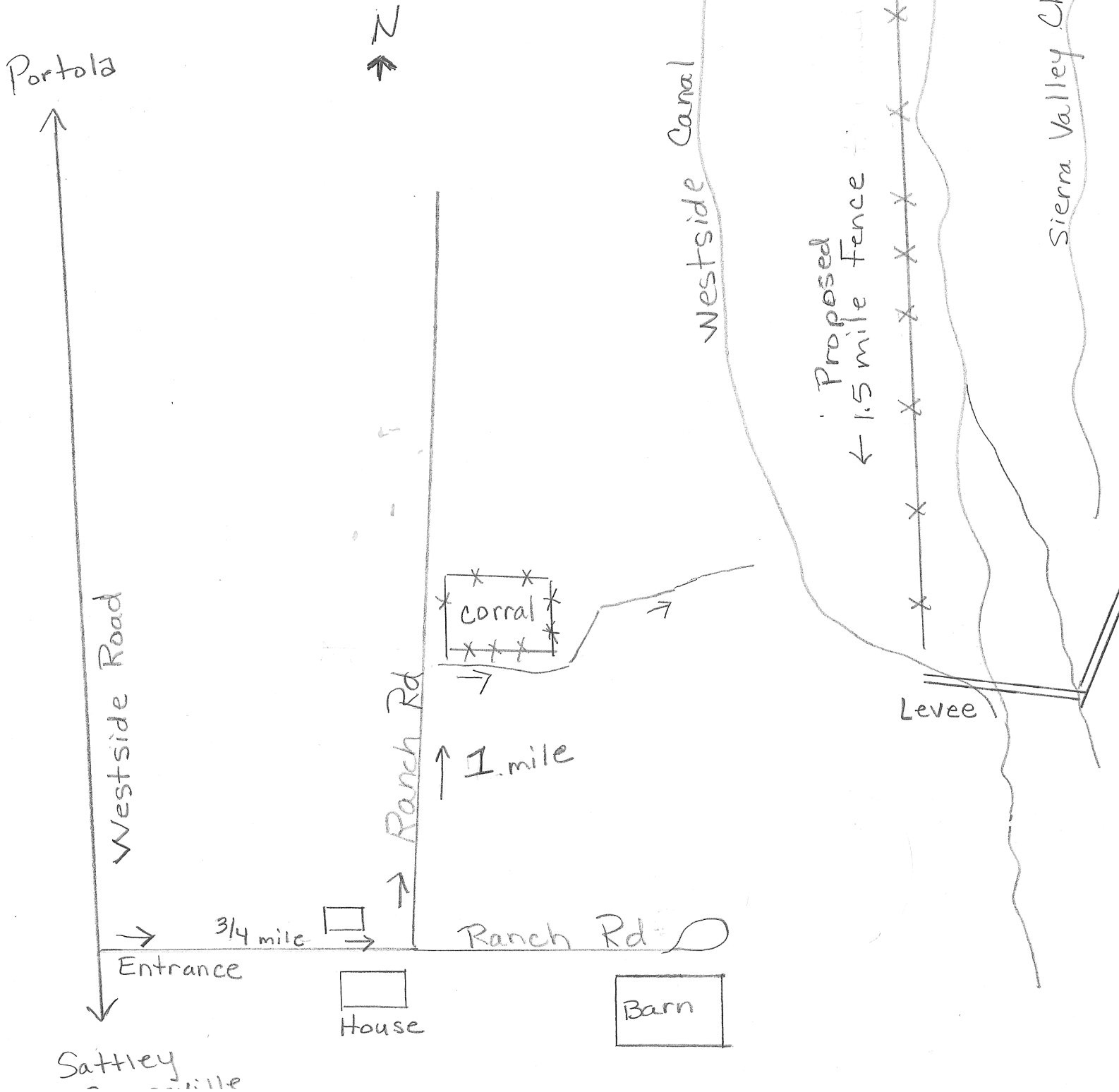
Riparian Fencing &  
Off-stream Livestock Water Facility



Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality  
and Habitat Enhancement Project

Site Plan Site #2

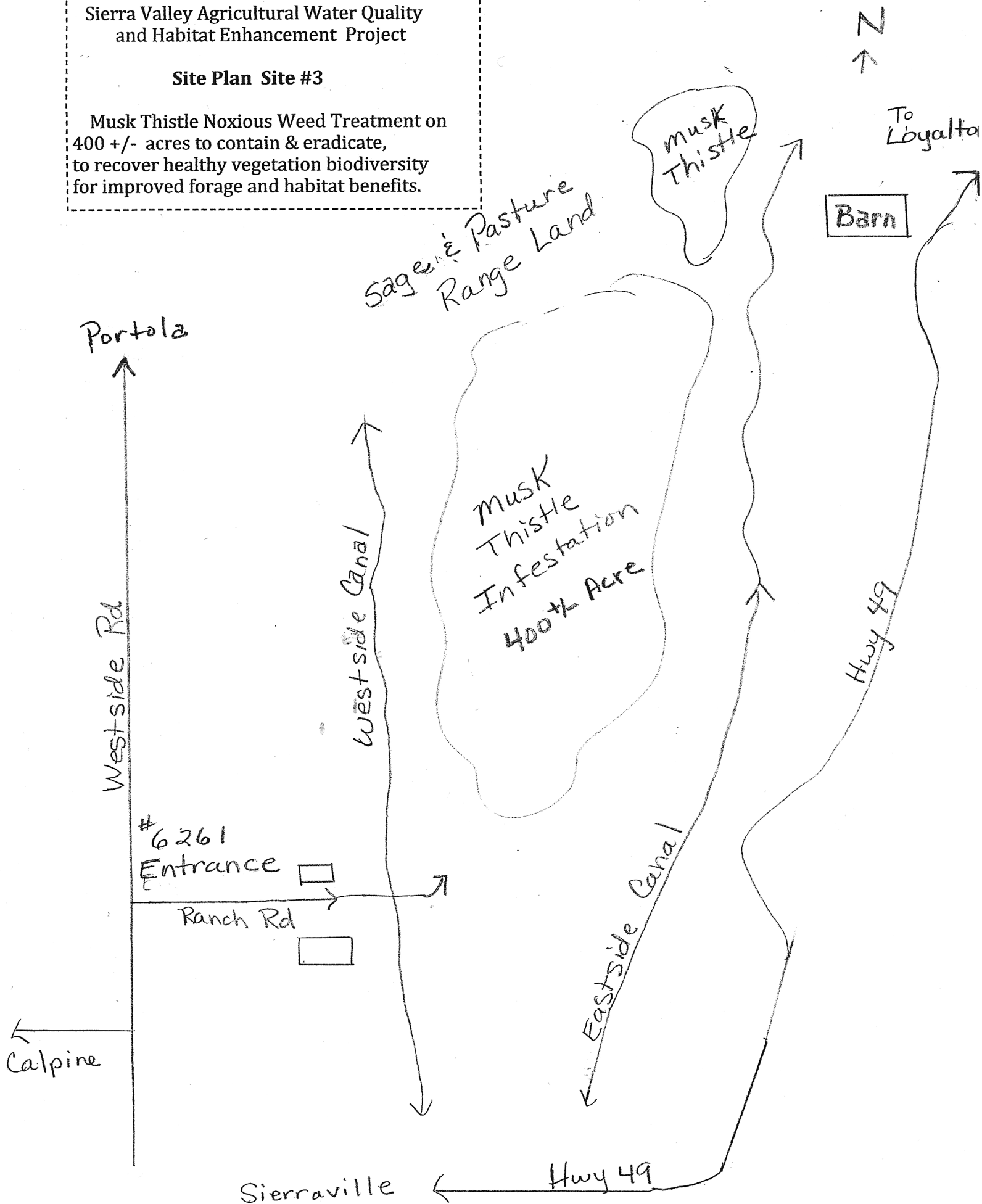
1.5 Mile Fence along Riparian Area  
to improve Grazing Management for  
Water Quality and Habitat Benefit



Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality  
and Habitat Enhancement Project

Site Plan Site #3

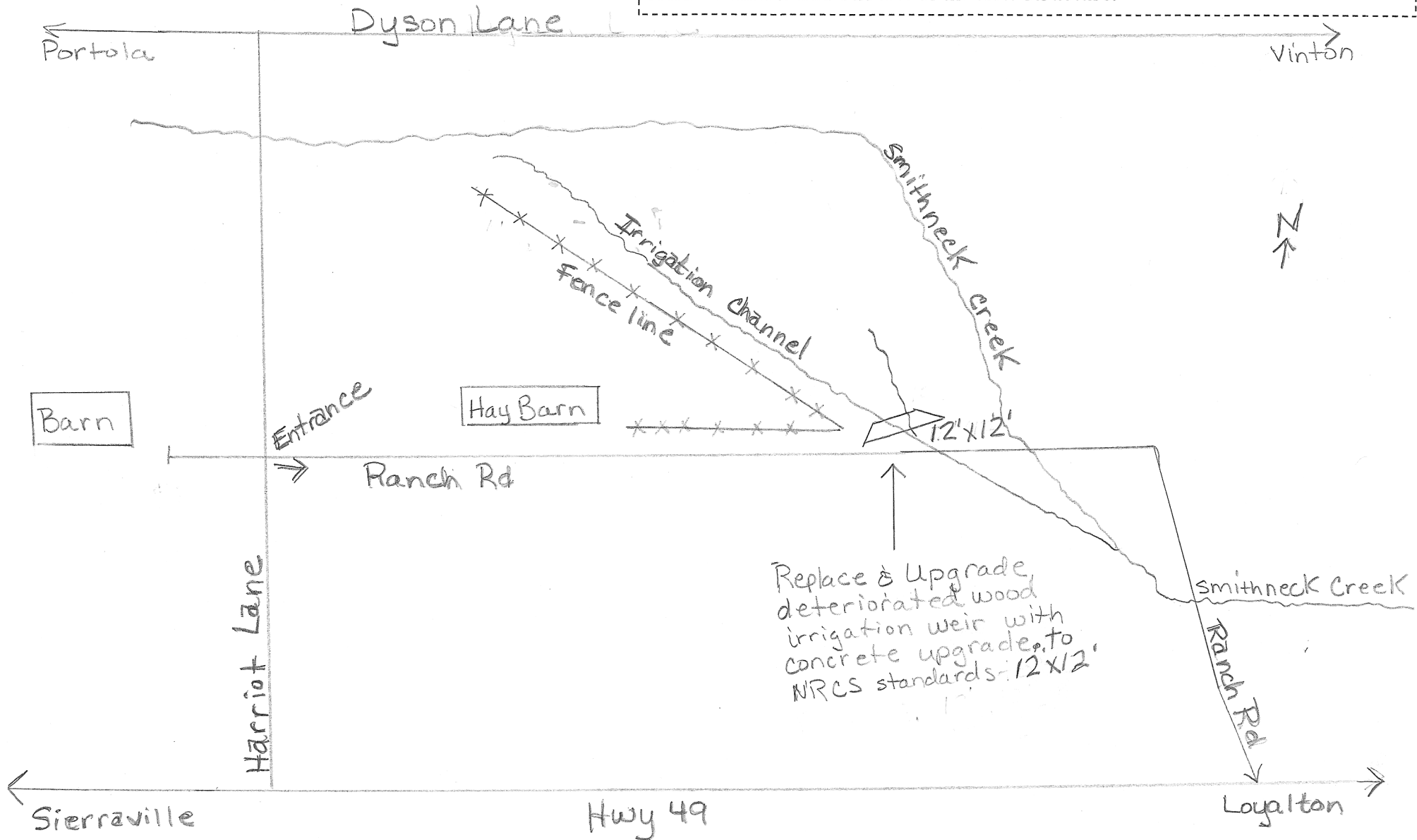
Musk Thistle Noxious Weed Treatment on  
400 +/- acres to contain & eradicate,  
to recover healthy vegetation biodiversity  
for improved forage and habitat benefits.



Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

Site Plan Site #4

Replace deteriorated historic wooden Irrigation Structure with a 12 ft x 12 ft concrete upgrade. On-site rock and re-vegetation will be used to reinforce banks at inflow and outflow of the new structure.



Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project

Site Plan Site #5

Install Exclosure Fence on Three Acre Artesian Spring Area

